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Inter-Arab Affairs

Tripartite Committee Foreign Ministers Meet

LD0706211289 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2020 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 7 Jun (SPA)—The foreign ministers of the member countries of the Higher Arab Tripartite Committee [Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and Morocco] held a meeting at 2100 this evening, Wednesday, in the Conference Hall in Jeddah, to begin implementing the plan to end the Lebanese crisis. The plan was adopted by the higher committee, consisting of King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques; His Majesty King Hasan II; and President Chadli Bendjedid, at their meeting of last Sunday in Rabat.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; Abdellatif Filali, Moroccan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; and Boualem Bessaieh, Algerian foreign minister. Arab League Assistant Secretary General Lakhdar Ibrahim also took part in the meeting.

The Higher Arab Tripartite Committee has expressed its determination to make efforts and mobilize all the means necessary to help the Lebanese people and the Lebanese state to overcome the crisis they are facing. [passage omitted]

Delegation To Visit Damascus

JN0706193789 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Our correspondent in Damascus, Louis Faris, has informed us that the delegation of the Tripartite Arab Committee on the Lebanese crisis will arrive in Damascus tomorrow, Thursday, for talks with Syrian officials on the situation in Lebanon in light of the emergency Arab summit resolutions and the Tripartite Committee's recent meeting in Rabat, which comprised the Saudi and Moroccan monarchs and the Algerian president.

Committee Expected To Visit Iraq

JN0706205089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2015 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus, carried within the "Panorama" program]

[Text] I have learned that the Tripartite Arab Ministerial Committee on Lebanon, that is the Arab troika [preceding word in English] as it is called by some, which comprises the Moroccan, Saudi, and Algerian foreign ministers, in addition to an Arab League representative, will arrive in Damascus tomorrow morning, Thursday. The committee members will hold important talks with the Syrian officials on the mission the recent Casablanca Arab summit has entrusted to the Tripartite Committee that comprises King Hassan II, King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, and President Chadli Bendjedid.

The Arab troika is expected to leave Damascus for Baghdad Thursday night. An informed Arab diplomatic source told me that members of the Arab troika had, during the past few days, held a series of telephone contacts with some Lebanese leaders and that the committee is really seeking to fix the cease-fire in Lebanon as a first stage.

For this reason, the committee will seek to obtain constant guarantees by the Iraqi side to refrain from sending shipments of arms and ammunitions and other means of killing and destruction to Lebanon. This would silence guns and calm down the atmosphere instead of exacerbating them. This would also create an appropriate atmosphere for embarking on rational dialogue over political reforms pursuant to the Arab summit resolution on Lebanon, which has gained Arab unanimity and international support.

It is known that Syrian officials clearly, frankly, and firmly voiced support for the efforts of the Tripartite Arab Committee.

GCC Ministerial Council Issues Statement

LD0706172989 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1040 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Jeddah, 7 Jun (SPA)—The Ministerial Council of the GCC foreign ministers has ended its 31st session at the palace of conferences in Jeddah under the chairmanship of Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak al-Khalifah.

During the final session, His Excellency the GCC Secretary General 'Abdullah Ya'qub Bisharah read the press statement of the 31st session of the Ministerial Council. Here is the text:

The Ministerial Council held its 31st session in the city of Jeddah during the period 3-4 Dhu al-Qi'dah 1409 H., corresponding to 6-7 June 1989, under the chairmanship of the foreign minister of Bahrain, His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak al-Khalifah, the chairman of the current session of the council, and with the attendance of all members:

His Excellency Rashid Ibn-'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, minister of state for foreign affairs of the UAE;

His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

His Excellency Badr Ibn-Sa'ud Ibn-Harib, interior minister of the Sultanate of Oman;

His Excellency Shaykh Ahmad Ibn-Sayf al-Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs of the State of Qatar;

His Excellency Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the State of Kuwait;

The council reviewed the progress of implementing the decisions of the Supreme Council at its ninth session held in the State of Bahrain. The council also reviewed regional, Arab, and international developments and heard a report by the chairman of the current session, His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak al-Khalifah, foreign minister of the State of Bahrain, regarding the contacts which the chairmanship made on behalf of the council in light of the positions taken by the council in connection with the negotiations and contacts being made to implement UN Security Council Resolution 598.

Arising from its commitment to the policy laid down by their majesties and highnesses the GCC leaders, the council reaffirmed its support for the efforts of the UN secretary general and his endeavors to achieve a permanent and comprehensive peace, which will ensure stability in the region; the council also reaffirmed the continuation of its policy to continue contacts with the parties concerned and with the permanent member states of the UN Security Council in order to contribute to progress in the negotiations now taking place between Iraq and Iran.

In accordance with the resolution of the extraordinary Arab summit in Casablanca, the council reaffirmed its belief that the cease-fire should be the starting point for the establishment of permanent and comprehensive peace between Iraq and Iran and the stabilization of security and peace in the region.

The council welcomed the resolution of the extraordinary Arab summit, held in Casablanca in the fraternal Kingdom of Morocco, which dealt with the situation in Lebanon with an Arab collective spirit of responsibility, and its resolution to set up a committee comprising His Majesty King Hassan II of the Kingdom of Morocco; King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, custodian of the two holy mosques; and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Peoples's Democratic Republic of Algeria, which is fully authorized to realize the aims adopted by the summit conference for solving the Lebanese crisis.

The council expressed its appreciation for this step and stressed its importance in helping Lebanon to overcome its ordeal and end its sufferings, and in restoring normal conditions, achieving reconciliation, and extending the full sovereignty of the Lebanese state over all Lebanese territory with the aim of protecting its security and stability by its own forces.

The council appeals to all concerned parties to cooperate with the Supreme Tripartite Committee in order to arrive at the desired solution, which will restore stability and security to Lebanon and protect its Arabism and sovereignty and the integrity of its national territory.

The council also reviewed the development of the situation in the occupied Arab territories and the continuation of the popular intifadah [uprising] against the occupation and the oppressive practices carried out by the Zionist enemy. The council hails the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and confirms its commitment to the resolutions of the Arab emergency summit in Casablanca. The council expresses its hope that the Supreme Committee under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, will be successful in achieving its objectives.

The council discussed the topics on the agenda of its 31st session and took note of the minutes of the various ministerial committee meetings.

The council has decided to hold its next meeting in Riyadh on 28 August to carry out a comprehensive evaluation of all the topics that will be put forward before the next session of the Supreme Council.

Issued in the city of Jeddah on 4 Thu al-Qi'da 1409 H, corresponding to 7 June 1989 A.D.

Palestinian Affairs

Syria Reportedly Asks Groups To Return to PLO

JN0706180289 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic
6 Jun 89 pp 1, 28

[By Fathi al-Barqawi]

[Text] Tunis—A high-ranking Palestinian official has disclosed to AL-ANBA' that a meeting was held in the Syrian capital 4 days ago between Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and a number of the leaders of the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF], including Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], Khalid al-Fahum, Ahmad Jibril, and Abu-Khalid al-'Amlah, as well as the leaders of the pro-Syria Al-Sa'iqah Organization. The Palestinian official, who wished to remain anonymous, added that Khaddam stated to the Palestinian leaders, who oppose the PLO leadership, that they should prepare themselves for a new situation dictated by the current circumstances that will soon witness a remarkable improvement in Syrian-Palestinian relations.

Khaddam asked the prominent PNSF leaders residing in Damascus to exert their efforts to return to the PLO institutions. It is known that the PLO has not closed doors in the face of those leaders, except Abu-Musa and his group, if they want to return to the Palestine National Council or the other institutions.

The Palestinian official expressed his conviction that despite this important sign of the normalization of Palestinian-Syrian relations, it will be decided in the next 2 weeks if an agreement is reached on the visit to Damascus by a Palestinian delegation, the topics to be discussed, and the results that might be reached.

The Palestinian official stressed that the release of approximately 3,000 Palestinian prisoners by the Syrian authorities is a sign of good will.

'Arafat Urges Unity, Rejects Shamir Plan

JN0806063289 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] In the 19th month of the Palestinian intifadah [uprising], PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat called on Palestinians of the occupied territory to have more unity, organization, and self-reliance in their daily life. 'Arafat said: We must concentrate our efforts on buliding an independent Palestinian society, with an infrastructure of schools and colleges. 'Arafat recommended activation of the education committees and completing the establishment of self-administration councils and said: We must prepare the way for highlighting the identity of our state, which is now a stone's throw away.

'Arafat reiterated his rejection of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's plan calling for elections in the occupied territory.

Qaddumi Discusses Topics for U.S.-PLO Talks

JN0806091589 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has stated that the U.S.-PLO dialogue, whose third session is scheduled today, has so far not touched on essential issues that the United States should address. In a statement to the Saudi newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT today, Qaddumi noted that the issue of preparing the ground for the international conference and the definition of the U.S. concept of the Palestinians' political rights will be among isues to be raised by the Palestinian delegation during the dialogue.

USSR 'Ready To Mediate' Between PLO, Israel

JN2705091589 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 27 May 89 pp 17, 22

[By Sa'd al-Silawi]

[Text] Amman- A high-ranking Soviet official has said the Soviet Union is "ready to mediate" between the PLO and Israel.

Oleg Sergeyev, expert of the U.S. and Canada Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, was answering by telephone SAWT AL-SHA'B's questions on the essence of the Soviet proposal to hold a quadripartite meeting of the Soviet Union, the United States, the PLO, and Israel.

The convening of the international peace conference on the Middle East, he explained, requires major preparations to formulate an understanding of its bases acceptable to all parties to the conflict. This, in addition to other measures, makes it useful to hold contacts between the parties to the conflict, especially the PLO and Israel. Through this we can coordinate the parties' views concerning the Palestine question, and surmount the main obstacle to the convening of the international conference—namely, Tel Aviv's refusal to enter into negotiations with the PLO. In this respect, Moscow is ready to mediate for both the PLO and Israel. It is also ready to perform this task in cooperation with the United States. The quadripartite meeting, he went on to say, would facilitate contacts between Israel and the PLO. This should also help the Israeli leadership shed feelings of hostility and reconsider its old policies toward the PLO.

The Soviet expert said: This meeting, of course, will not discuss any issues that may harm the interests of the other parties to the conflict. Its basic aim is to reduce tension between the PLO and Israel and examine the positions of the two parties toward a host of procedural issues concerning the Middle East conference.

In the meantime, Moscow does not rule out the possibility of holding indirect negotiations parallel to the Geneva talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, with subsequent equivalent talks between the PLO and Israel before or during the international conference.

Asked whether an agreement on a Soviet-U.S. summit meeting had been reached, the Soviet official said that a meeting between Shevardnadze and Baker will be held in September as an introduction to the summit meeting between the U.S. President and the Soviet leader.

This subject, he said, was discussed during U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's visit to Moscow. But no time was fixed for the summit meeting, and both parties agreed that this requires additional accomplishments and decided to continue discussing this issue during the September ministerial meeting.

Asked whether the Soviet Union still adheres to the agreement on settling regional conflicts reached during the latest Gorbachev-Reagan summit, Sergeyev said the two parties expressed during this summit their desire for constant endeavors to help parties to regional conflicts find peaceful solutions that consolidate their independence, freedom, and security. The Soviet Union, he added, has repeatedly announced its readiness to cooperate with the United States in launching initiatives aimed at helping resolve regional conflicts. If we take Afghanistan as an example, he added, Moscow has honored its commitments made in the Geneva accords despite continued U.S. arms supplies to the rebels and Pakistan's direct interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs. The Soviet Union is continuing to push this conflict toward a peaceful solution.

Fatah Member Khalaf on Palestinian Affairs

JN0406080589 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 1-2 Jun 89 p 11

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf by Najih Khalil; date, place not given]

[Text] [Khalil] Brother Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf]: How does the Palestinian leadership assess the outcome of the Casablanca summit as far as the resolutions on the Palestinian question and Lebanon are concerned?

[Khalaf] First, Egypt's return to Arab ranks was without question an event of major significance. Other achievements in Casablanca were the inter-Arab reconciliations on the sidelines of the summit, which confirmed that summitry is useful.

As for the Palestinian cause, I think the PLO has attained what it had sought and the Arabs gave all that they could possibly offer, especially in political terms—namely a reaffirmation of the Algiers summit resolutions on extending moral support and subsidies to the intifadah [uprising] as well as backing Palestinian political activiity.

I must say that I am optimistic that King Hassan is taking charge of the action committee on the international level given his Arab and international standing. Along with the other Arab leaders he may lay the groundwork for effective Arab action.

Regarding Lebanon, it was an intractable problem and the relevant resolutions of the summit were the result of compromise. However, I am optimistic about the three-member committee. I just hope it will not meet with the same fate as the six-member committee, especially since the three-member committee is made up of heads of state. The six-member committee did not spare itself, however.

I think the three-member committee should pick up from where the six-member committee left off because the latter had been acting according to a reasonable and realistic program and is well versed with the Lebanese scene and foreign entanglements in Lebanon. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad for his tremendous efforts and I trust his efforts and the committee's findings will prove useful to the three-member committee.

[Khalil] In the wake of the intifadah summit in Algiers you said that the Arab countries have failed to deliver on the resolutions concerning subsidies to the intifadah. Would you comment against the backdrop of the Casablanca summit?

[Khalaf] Those Arabs who usually honor their commitments to extend support have mostly done so recently. I mean Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, and Iraq. These four usually bear the burden of support. Most of them have fulfilled their commitments. The commitments will be followed through after the Casablanca summit, God willing.

[Khalil] Bilateral meetings took place on the sidelines of the most recent Arab summit between 'Arafat and Al-Asad. Before the summit, Algeria led Arab efforts at reconciliation between the two sides. Is it fair to say that real reconcilation materialized between the two presidents or sides?

[Khalaf] I think more than one meeting should be devoted to the relations with Syria. Undoubtedly the atmosphere gets more friendly during Arab meetings. One meeting, however, cannot solve the problem.

The Algerian brothers have long been active to bring about some kind of reconcilation. Their efforts had led to a Palestinian-Syrian-Algerian meeting on the sidelines of the Harare conference which in turn paved the way for the summit meeting.

This is necessarily part of a long process. I believe that there must be other meetings in Damascus where all issues and various details have to be addressed. Maybe we should not dwell on the past. However, it is important that our past relations be scrutinized in the interest of our future ties. I regard the meeting with the Syrians on the summit sidelines as a good thing. But other longer, more profound meetings must follow if we are to put our relations on the right track, which is what we hope will happen.

[Khalil] The final statement of the summit was clear in its support for the PLO's program and for its peace efforts. It is clear that President Hafiz al-Asad signed this statement, just like other Arab leaders. Do you not believe that this accomplishment might contribute to ending many bilateral differences? Or are there still outstanding Syrian reservations on the Palestinian peace endeavors?

[Khalaf] To the best of my knowledge, there were no reservations voiced at the summit. The resolutions were adopted unanimously. Leader Al-Qadhdhafi voiced his reservation on the explicit reference to the Resolution 181. However, when the phrase "the UN resolutions" was chosen, Al-Qadhdhafi dropped his reservation.

As for the reconciliation, the prospects for a reconciliation in the real sense of the word will become attainable if the Syrians are willing to achieve that reconciliation, and also if we are willing to achieve it. I am saying this to be fair to the Syrians.

If the Syrians have people opposing a relationship with the PLO, we also have within the PLO people opposing a relationship with Syria. There are people who do not benefit from the establishment of Syrian-Palestinian relations; and these people are to be found on both the Palestinian and Syrian sides.

If we seek to enter into a new relationship away from those who oppose the establishment of such a relationship, I believe that what transpired in Casablanca and the political statement approved on the Palestine question can serve as the political program of both Syria and the PLO.

I believe that joint political action can relieve the situation in Lebanon, as the Palestinian-Syrian relationship will inevitably have positive effects on Lebanon. However, all this is contingent on what happens in the near future.

[Khalil] Before the summit, it was clear that leader Al-Qadhdhafi had some reservations on attending the summit. Efforts were made by President al-Asad, President Chadli Bendjedid, and President Ben Ali to persuade him to attend. In some situations, leader Al-Qadhdhafi termed the summit "suspect". Do you have details on this incident and on the deliberations which resulted in seeing Al-Qadhdhafi participate in the summit?

[Khalaf] I believe that leader Al-Qadhdhafi was opposing Egypt's participation in the summit.

Anyhow, we Arabs sometimes make hawkish and strong statements. However, when the Arab individual meets his brother, emotions are calmed. I believe that Al-Qadhdhafi responded favorably to the Arab mediation efforts over his participation in the summit, particularly as he needs Arab solidarity. To be honest, I am one of those who were pleased by Al-Qadhdhafi's participation in the summit, as we in the Arab world need all voices—those agreeing as well as those opposing. We need opposition in Arab gatherings and meetings, as this opposition would continuously inject some vitality into Arab action.

We wished to see the reconciliations which took place between President Mubarak and leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and between Syria and Egypt through the meeting between President al-Asad and President Mubarak also involve Syria and Iraq, as I believe that this wound will develop into a deep one if it remains unattended. We need the strong Iraq whose army and people have allowed the Arab nation to lift its head high. Iraq should not be at odds with any Arab country. Hence, we hope that those who sought at the summit to hold a meeting between President Saddam Husayn and President al-Asad will continue their efforts to hold the meeting in other places and circumstances. I also believe that Al-Qadhdhafi can play a principal role in this.

[Khalil] Arab and maybe international efforts have been made over the past 4 or 5 years to bring Egypt back to the Arab fold. These efforts have come up against major obstacles at the Arab and possibly the international level as well. Now that Egypt is back in the Arab fold, do you as a Palestinian politician and leader known as a close observer of the Arab scene think that Egypt's return was part of a political deal?

[Khalaf] The word deal may be an overstatement. However, President Mubarak's policies have brought Egypt closer to the Arab nation in contrast with Al-Sadat's vendetta against the Arab nation.

As a matter of fact, President Mubarak's handling of the Arab countries has been moral—free from invective and abuse and evasion of the truth. On more than one occasion—and I say this based on hard facts—he has refused suggestions by foreign powers that he join anti-Libyan operations. He has acted likewise in cases involving other Arab countries. Thus President Mubarak's unique approach to the Arabs is one of the reasons behind Egypt's return to the Arab League.

The second reason is the persistent declarations that Camp David is outdated and no longer relevant, especially where it concerns the Palestinian case. Egypt now advocates an independent Palestinian state and self-determination. It also espouses the international conference as the framework for negotiations. Egypt also regards the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative [of the Palestinian people] which is at odds with Camp David.

The third point is that the Arabs do need Egypt on their side. It is unacceptable that it be left vulnerable to Israel and the United States—a fact which many an Arab has grasped and argued that keeping Egypt from falling into this trap is a pan-Arab duty. All of these factors have helped speed up Egypt's return to Arab ranks.

[Khalil] As you know, Abu-Iyad, this summit was convened with two key subjects uppermost on the minds of all the Arab leaders—the Palestinian cause and Lebanon. Regarding the Palestinian question, the summit has achieved much and given the PLO all that it sought. On the Lebanese issue, however, the summit came up against a brick wall, specifically regarding the Syrian-Iraqi disagreement. You witnessed the confrontation between Presidents Saddam Husayn and Hafiz al-Asad. Do you not think that there will be new rounds of bloodshed in the aftermath of the summit?

[Khalaf] As I have said, the conference arrived at a compromise between Iraq and Syria and compromises are typically hazy and hold the prospect of renewed shelling and sustained tragedy. Such prospects, though, are made less likely given that the conference assigned the task of trying to solve the Lebanese crisis to three Arab leaders of stature. I, therefore, think that if the crisis flared up it would not be for long. Frankly speaking, the crisis may flare up again through what I like to call the war of the cowards, regardless of who starts the shooting. We hope the war of the cowards will not start again as this would mean that more Lebanese blood will be shed and losses sustained.

At this point, we must consider the implications of this war for the Palestinian intifadah [uprising], that is, the one overshadowing the other, which runs contrary to Arab interests; or in terms of the war playing into the hands of the Zionists who would then be able to argue against the Palestinian state when a senseless war is raging in an established country like Lebanon.

[Khalil] In reality, this question comes in light of the information received that there are Syrian troop concentrations and that there is an intention to storm East Beirut.

[Khalaf] You can quote me that there will be no storming of East Beirut. Neither the red lines nor the military capabilities permit this. I rule out such an eventuality. However, there is a possibility that shelling will resume. This shelling will be some kind of a message to the tripartite committee and to the Arab summit. One poses the following question here. Can the Arabs suffer the failure of another committee? I believe that if this committee fails, then Lebanon will be destroyed.

[Khalil] Some time ago an incident took place in Lebanon which resulted in the assassination of Shaykh Hasan Khalid. Through your close observation of the security aspects of the Palestinian revolution, do you accuse a certain party of being responsible for this incident? Do you also believe that other Lebanese personalities will face the same fate?

[Khalaf] It is difficult to ascertain which party carried out this operation. There are many parties in Lebanon that operate along the same lines, including Arab, Israeli, Lebanese, and various other foreign parties. For this reason, it is very difficult to pinpoint the party responsible for this. But we must ask ourselves which party benefits from the death of Shaykh Hasan Khalid in this odious manner? As a man of religion and a patriot, he harmed no one during his life. On the contrary, he was concerned for Lebanon's unity. He did not participate in any partitioning operation. He had always been a symbol of national unity and of Lebanon's unity, and a symbol defending the Palestinian revolution.

Shaykh Hasan Khalid was one of the defenders of the Palestinian people and their revolution. Who has an interest in killing such a great man? I believe that all the enemies of Lebanon and Lebanese unity have an interest in killing him. Believe me, I have some inklings about this incident. However, I cannot accuse any party as this is a sensitive issue. I can say that only Lebanon's enemies stand behind this operation. I hope that the coming days will reveal the party that is directly responsible for this despicable crime.

[Khalil] As part of speculations on this incident, it was said that Prime Minister Salim al-Huss was the target.

[Khalaf] I do not believe so. This was meant for Shaykh Hasan Khalid, and the people that carried out the operation aimed at him personally.

[Khalil] In light of the argument that took place at the summit between Presidents Saddam Husayn and Hafiz al-Asad and the Iraqi president's departure from Casablanca before the final session, do you believe that differences between both sides are now wider than they were before the summit?

[Khalaf] Differences were wide enough. The differences are longstanding and there are several reasons for them, whether through relations between the two parties, or through the Iraq-Iran war and Syria's support for Iran. This is in addition to many problems and interference in the other side's affairs. Although these problems are many, I do not believe that the summit has further complicated them, but has kept them as they are. If the summit has not succeeded in bringing the two sides' views close together, we should not despair. The Arabs cannot settle their differences and keep the Iraqi-Syrian differences without a solution. I believe that if the sincere men in the Arab nation resume the process of reconciliation, then everything will be possible. At the minimum, an agreement should be reached to stop media campaigns and military or political aggression between the two sides. This is despite the fact that we hope that the possibility of rapprochement will be better and greater. This is because differences will affect Lebanon and the Arab and Palestinian arenas.

[Khalil] In his recent tour, Shamir made a statement in which he said that Israelis would be crazy to agree to the establishment of a Palestinian state. What do you think?

[Khalaf] We do not have illusions that Shamir, Peres, Rabin, and the ruling coalition will accept the political program. We made the peace decision so that the world will see how those Israelis think.

In the beginning, they used to say: [Resolution] 242, renouncing terrorism, recognizing Israel, and international legitimacy. When the PLO responded, the ruling Israeli coalition did not come out with more than what Shamir, Peres, Rabin, and the ruling coalition in Israel said during their tours inside and outside Israel.

I believe that the insane ones in Israel are those who do not respond to the Palestinian state and not those who consider the establishment of the state. This is because it is real madness to challenge this great Arab mass, especially since we—as Mitterrand says—presented to world opinion 90 percent of the cards leading to a solution while Israel did not not present even one card; and there are numerous European opinions in this regard. Even in the United States, Baker stood up to say that Israel must abandon the dreams of Eretz Yisra'el [Greater Israel]. This is the first time that such a stand has came from the United States secretary of state.

Hence, those who want peace in Israel are of sound mind and those who do not want peace are sick. Shamir and other mad people in Israel must be sent to lunatic asylums because they do not have the least mental capability to defend Israel's survival. They are pushing the Arab nation and the world to find a means to fight them. If the question is whether peace or war is lunacy, then I say that war is lunacy.

[Khalil] Now that the intifadah [uprising] has entered its 19th month, and after President 'Arafat has announced that the Palestine National Charter became null and void or superseded by events, how do you view the future for settlement in the Middle East? Do you believe that the intifadah is capable of becoming the mechanism to start the Palestinian peace process?

[Khalaf] First, let me say that neither 'Arafat, Salah Khalaf, nor any other leader can cancel the Charter because it belongs to the Palestine National Council. All the Americans and Israelis who demand the revocation of the Charter are trying to escape from the peace initiative. Let us leave the talk about all charters to the international conference because it is unacceptable to ask one party to change its charter without asking the same from the other. This is a historical fallacy.

On the other hand, in this impotent Arab atmosphere, we have nothing other than the intifadah. We abroad have suffered greatly at the hands of Arab regimes; but they inside are suffering from military, economic, political, and psychological occupation. Therefore, i do not believe the people will abandon the intifadah. The intifadah may cool down a little before it escalates even further.

We say to the whole world that even if another war breaks out between us and Israel or between the Arabs and Israel, the Palestinian peace initiative must continue to exist and we must continue to fight under its banner only.

At the same time, we must not miscalculate because that is what they are hoping for in Israel. Shamir and others have stated more than once that they are waiting for the PLO to make a mistake. So far, we have made no mistakes. But they are waiting for a slip by us in a statement here or there. In the final analysis, we have not made no mistakes because we preserved the coherence of the peace initiative.

[Khalil] What do you think of the British posture in light of Mrs Thatcher's recent declarations?

[Khalaf] The British position has changed somewhat since the PNC Algiers resolutions. Indeed all of Europe has been changing its approach to the Palestinian case. But this is still not enough. We hope Britian will adopt a more advanced stance; lukewarm language only serves Israel.

It must be unambiguously stated that the right solution in the region lies in the two-state formula. In other words, the Palestinian state must be granted recognition otherwise there can be no peace. The proposed plan for elections talked about by Shamir and Rabin is unacceptable. Although we are not averse to elections in principle, we must ask: What is the purpose of the elections and where and how and when will they be held? We are not opposed to an Israeli withdrawal and then for international forces and observers to supervise the polls and familiarize themselves with our people's wishes. The elections are an exercise in self-determination. But there is no historical precedent for self-determination being exercised under occupation.

[Khalil] Speaking of the elections proposed by Shamir, Belgium was mentioned as a possible overseer?

[Khalaf] We do not want to be inundated by Israel with details. We are not against elections per se. We want the elections to be part of a grand plan with a clearcut beginning and end. Let us say for example that we start off with elections and end up with an international conference to work out peace and decree the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. If things would work out that way then there's no problem. It is not a question of whether Belgium, France, or any other nation oversees the election. We have opted for a peace whereby we would see a halt to our people's bleeding and homelessness. We want a state where the future of our people and their children is secure. Talking about self-rule amounts to rubbish that they will have to find traitors among the Arabs to accept.

[Khalil] It has been said that following the Shevardnadze-Baker meeting, a disagreement emerged between the Soviets and the Palestinians. The Soviets were also said to have consented to the Shamir plan and that the emigration of Soviet Jewry has become a factor.

[Khalaf] Soviet-Palestinian relations over the past 2 years have never been better. To date, no disagreement has emerged with the Soviet Union regarding the Shamir plan, the elections, or the American position. The Soviets wholeheartedly support the Palestinian position; don't believe rumors about Palestinian-Soviet differences. If anything, our positions are harmonious on policies and American and European moves. And a joint committee now exists—the first such body to have been formed in the history of Soviet-Palestinian relations. It is a joint coordinating committee on the highest level that convenes at least once every 3 months. The committee coordinates Palestinian and Soviet positions. I repeat that this is the first time a committee has been set up in the history of Palestinian-Soviet relations.

[Khalil] Did the U.S. and USSR attitudes clash over the Palestinian issue in the recent Baker-Shevardnadze meeting? And on what issues specifically did the clash occurr?

[Khalaf] Undoubtedly, there are differences between the two sides. Otherwise, a solution would have been imposed. However, we must know that the superpowers have vested interests and that they do not discuss a specific issue in isolation from other issues. No, they discuss a host of interlinked issues. For example, the Central American issue, the Middle East conflict, and the issue of missiles in East Europe and West Europe are on the table in the negotiations between the United States and the USSR. This means that common interests

are interlinked and that the superpowers do not discuss an issue in isolation from other issues. No, they note the progress made on a certain issue as well as the differences remaining beween them.

I can safely say that there are U.S.-USSR differences not on the details, but on the outcome of any Middle East dialogue. The Americans believe that the dialogue must be among the interlocutors themselves, while the USSR believes that it is necessary to help the interlocutors and that there is an objective to be achieved—namely, the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. This is a major difference between the two sides.

Washington says that it supports the full political rights of the Palestinian people, however, it has failed to define these rights. As for the USSR, it says that the realization of these political rights should lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

[Khalil] Allow me to reverse the picture and ask the following question: Is there an exchange of roles between the United States and the USSR? In other words, has the United States begun to show interest in Palestinian concerns while the USSR is seen showing interest in Israeli concerns?

[Khalaf] I do not believe that things have reached that extent. However, you can say that the USSR has come as close to the Israeli position as the United States has come to the Palestinian. As for the principal roles, everybody has remained in his place. The United States is the only party that can exert pressure on Israel. The Soviets also have a role in terms of the moral pressure that they can exert. The Soviets might have come close to Israel or opened some doors. However, this rapprochement has remained proportionate to the rapprochement to the Palestinian side initiated by the United States.

[Khalil] Reports were circulated to the effect that agreements were reached between the U.S. and Palestinian sides. These reports also maintained that Baker's recent statements are an indication of this.

[Khalaf] We wish this were true and hope that things will reach this point. As a matter of fact, the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue has remained timid and failed to express itself, like the timidity of virgins. However, there are no agreements whatsoever.

Two official rounds of talks have so far been held. The talks centered on our vision of the solution as well as the U.S. perspective on the solution. Then came the elections issue, which has become the main issue in the dialogue. They [the Americans] say that the elections are the prelude to a solution. As for us, we say that we accept elections as part of the solution. These are the dimensions of the dialogue. No agreements have been reached so far.

[Khalil] It has been said that a sort of security cooperation has taken place between the two sides [the PLO and the United States], particularly with regard to the Pan Am bombing issue.

[Khalaf] I challenge anybody who says that a single Palestinian document was given to the United States on the Pan Am incident. A congressman said that Yasir 'Arafat has a file on the Pan Am bombing. I believe that this file is nonexistent. And if it exists, I believe that it contains nothing other than the information which we announced. And what we announced is not accepted by the United States. We announced that Israel was behind the incident.

[Khalil] Allow me to ask you about the stand of the Palestinian revolution or on its perspective as regards the recent incidents in Jordan.

[Khalaf] The perspective has been clear. We have not issued any statement that can be construed to mean that support was voiced for what happened. There is an economic crisis in Jordan. Some people who might be good and sincere expressed their opinions. There might also be some tools, guided by schemers, who attempted to exploit the situation. But King Husayn and the Jordanian Government have at last managed to contain the situation and to look for solutions to the economic crisis.

To be honest, I am not saying here that what happened in Jordan was of no concern to us. However, at the same time, we did not sing and dance over what happened. And this was confirmed by the fact that King Husayn performed the 'Id al-Fitr prayers at Al-Baq'ah camp, thus expressing his satisfaction with the Palestinian position.

[Khalil] Some Islamic bodies opposed a certain stand that 'Arafat took while mediating between the Kabul regime and the mujahidin. These Islamic bodies cite 'Arafat as saying that it is difficult for the mujahidin to enter Kabul. Considering the nature of the Palestinian situation, do you think that it is in the Palestinian leadership's interest to interfere in the Afghan crisis?

[Khalaf] In general, we believe that peripheral wars harm our cause, especially where the Arab and Muslim worlds are concerned. Therefore, we always find ourselves rushing to extinguish the fire because the flames will affect our cause. This applies to the Lebanese events, the Iraq-Iran war, and the continuing war in Afghanistan. Our mediation in the interests of the Afghan people has been within this consideration.

While it is true that the Afghan resistance has succeeded in the issue of the USSR withdrawal, which brought relief to the Soviets, to us, and to the Afghan resistance, it should be said that after the discontinuation of armed struggle, the Afghan brothers should deal with the political situation not on the basis of taking everything but on the basis of searching for solutions. As you can see now, the war is between the Afghans themselves. The issue has

turned into one of self-defense for those in Kabul or Jalalabad. Moreover, there are seven Afghan organizations in Iran that are not in agreement with the mujahidin provisional government. It is now clear that there are three Afghan groups, regardless of the size of each and irrespective of where our sympathies lie. Unless a political solution is found, these three groups will continue to fight among themselves.

If the brother mujahidin do not want us to interfere we will not interfere. However, they came to Tunisia more than once—ministers and senior officials. I do not beleive that the mujahidin oppose our intervention but there are certain Afghan movements that want to outbid others. These movements' understanding of issues is only superficial.

[Khalil] Do you have anything to say to the Lebanese people in their travail?

[Khalaf] We are in a position to understand more than others what happened to the Lebanese people. Therefore, I say that the Arabs should rightly stand by Lebanon to help it overcome this ordeal. However, nobody will be able to help the Lebanese unless they help themselves. I appeal to the Lebanese nationalist forces to seek the interests of the Lebanese people and to exert all their efforts to effect a solution through the tripartite committee and with the help of those concerned, led by Syria.

In my opinion, a solution comes through entrenching the cease-fire, posting observers, discussing a political solution and reforms, and electing a president and a prime minister. My only hope is that the Lebanese brothers will take care of themselves and bring an end to the bloodshed, which has been going on for 14 years. If they do not, they will have to bear the consequences.

[Khalil] Certain Lebanese elements blame you for supporting Michel 'Awn. They say that this was very clear from Yasir 'Arafat's cable of support to 'Awn.

[Khalaf] That is not true. As PLO chairman, Yasir 'Arafat plays within the existing game. [sentence as published] However, the Palestinian leadership in general has never been biased in 'Awn's favor or in favor of any other party. It is on the side of the Lebanese people.

OPEC Affairs

Oil Output Set at 19.5 Million Barrels Per Day

Kuwait Headed Toward Compromise

AU0706170789 Paris AFP in English 1652 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Vienna, June 7 (AFP)—The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was moving toward a temporary compromise with maverick member Kuwait on Wednesday, setting a production ceiling of 19.5 million barrels a day (MBD) for the third quarter, delegation officials said.

The deal would be signed by all 13 OPEC member countries, including Kuwait, which has held up talks among OPEC ministers by pressing its partners for a higher national quota, the senior officials said.

It would commit Kuwait to keep its production within a limit of 1.3 MBD from July to September. Kuwait had asked for a 400,000 barrels a day quota increase from its present level of about one MBD.

Venezuelan Energy Minister Celestino Armas confirmed that a 13-member accord was expected to be endorsed Wednesday night at a final session of the OPEC conference, which began here Monday.

The temporary arrangement would be reviewed at a meeting of OPEC's ministerial monitoring committee scheduled for September 23-29 in Paris, the sources said.

Ministers of the eight leading OPEC producers sit on the committee, which they said might be empowered to raise the OPEC ceiling further, as high as 21 MBD for the final quarter of this year, if considered necessary.

Other officials noted that such a decision would normally have to be taken by a meeting of all OPEC ministers.

Iranian delegates said Tehran might go on record with a reservation about the proposed accord on the grounds that it allowed "special treatment" for one country—Kuwait.

INA on Quotas

JN0706175689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Vienna, 7 Jun (INA)—The OPEC oil ministers have agreed to raise OPEC's production ceiling by 1 million barrels per day [bpd] so that the ceiling will be 19.5 million bpd during the second half of this year.

Oil sources informed the INA correspondent in Vienna tonight that the increase in the production ceiling will be distributed in accordance with the production quota percentages being enforced by the member states. Thus, Iraq's quota will rise to 2,783,000 bpd. Before this rise in the production ceiling, Iraq's quota was 2,640,000 bpd.

The sources added that the OPEC Ministerial Monitoring Commitee will meet in Paris in September to evaluate the results of the agreement and consider Kuwait's request to raise its production quota, as all ministers of the committee members will attend this meeting.

The ministers will hold a session, their last one tonight, to sign the new OPEC agreement.

Kuwait Expresses 'Reservation'

LD0706193289 Kuwait KUNA in English 1702 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Vienna, June 7 (KUNA)—OPEC's oil ministers will sign this evening an agreement raising the organization's total production ceiling from 18.5 million barrels a day (mbd) to 19.5 (mbd) for the second half of the current year, an official source told KUNA.

The increase in the production ceiling will be distributed among the 13 member states according to the present percentages stipulated by OPEC.

Kuwait has expressed reservation on the text of the agreement regarding distribution of quotas.

The ministers agreed on keeping the same official basic price of 18 U.S. dollars per barrel.

The Price and Production Monitoring Committee will meet next September to discuss if there was a need for raising the productions ceiling to 20 mbd.

Kuwait Signs Agreement

AU0706205289 Paris AFP in English 2010 GMT 7 Jun 89

[By Jan Kristiansen]

[Text] Vienna, June 7 (AFP)—Kuwait joined its partners in the 13-nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Wednesday night in signing a deal raising OPEC's overall crude oil production ceiling from 18.5 to 19.5 million barrels a day (MBD) for the second half of the year.

Aides to Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali Al-Khalifah al-Sabah said he put his signature to the final document but entered reservations making it clear the oil-rich emirate could not accept the quota allotted to it and did not feel bound by it.

The United Arab Emirates also reserved its position on the quota allocated to it.

The new accord, endorsed as OPEC oil ministers wound up their regular half-yearly session, set an OPEC reference price of 18 dollars a barrel.

It distributed the incremental output under the new limit "on a pro rata basis" among member countries, in line with the approach advocated by Saudi Arabia, which led the opposition to an increase in Kuwait's quota.

The deal followed six days of laborious, mostly private, bargaining in which Kuwait held out for a 400,000 barrels a day increase in its former one MBD quota. Its new quota was set at 1.093 MBD.

The accord will in effect cover the next three months.

An OPEC statement said the new ceiling could be raised to 20 MBD "or any other level agreed" as from next October if demand in the market warranted such an adjustment.

The accord will be reviewed at the end of September by OPEC's monitoring committee grouping ministers of eight key OPEC countries.

The panel is scheduled to meet in Paris from September 23, and ministers of the other five countries would also attend, according to the final statement.

OPEC's president, Rilwanu Lukman of Nigeria, told a news conference the Paris committee session could therefore easily be converted into an "extra-ordinary conference" with powers to amend the production ceiling.

Questioned, he specified that the agreement made no allowance for production in excess of national quotas by any member country.

But Kuwaiti delegation officials privately said there was no "gentlemen's agreement" requiring Kuwait or the United Arab Emirates to hold their output within prearranged limits.

The OPEC conference held a less than three-hour opening session on Monday, but no further formal sessions until the 45-minute closing sitting Wednesday night. Ministers spent most of their time in hotel suite meetings, seeking to persuade Kuwait to fall into line.

Prices, Quotas Announced

LD0806094789 Tehran IRNA in English 0935 GMT 08 Jun 89

[Text] Vienna, June 8, IRNA—Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said with the signing of the final resolution of the 85th OPEC meet by all the member states, the international oil market will be stabilised during the second half of the current year.

The ministerial meet of the organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) ended Wednesday after agreement on a production ceiling of 19.5 million BPD, [barrels per day] and a base price of 18 dollars. Any rise in the member countries' quota would be on the pro rata basis, Aqazadeh said after the meeting.

Iran's production quota will increase by 143,000 barrels a day under the new production ceiling, he said.

He added that all OPEC ministers will be invited to participate in an 8-member supervising committee session to be held on September 22 in Paris so that if needed a general conference be convened.

In its September meet, the committee will review the market demand and may propose the ceiling to rise to 20 million barrels daily or even higher if the world demand required, the OPEC President Rilwanu Lukman said.

He said it would also call for a general conference to implement the new decisions as the committee itself could not change quotas or production ceiling.

The production quotas of OPEC members under the new ceiling will be as follows:

-Algeria:	0.833 million barrels daily (MBD)
-Ecuador:	0.242 MBD
-Gabon:	0.175 MBD
-Indonesia:	1.307 MBD
-Iran:	2.783 MBD
-Iraq:	2.783 MBD
-Kuwait:	1.093 MBD
-Libya:	1.093 MBD
-Nigeria:	1.428 MBD
-Qatar:	0.329 MBD
-Saudi Arabia:	4.769 MBD
-United Arab Emirates:	1.041 MBD
-Venezuela:	1.724 MBD
Total:	19.5 MBD

The final resolution calls on all members to seriously observe their quotas.

The ministers also agreed to continue control of the production quotas.

The 86th OPEC meet is scheduled to be held in Vienna on November 25.

Lukman said that Kuwait had signed the agreement despite its protest to its production quota.

In case real production ceiling exceeds 19.5 MBD, he said, the organisation will review a decrease in the production ceiling.

According to Lukman OPEC production was about 20 to 20.5 MBD in May but oil companies estimated it around 21.5 MBD.

Kuwaiti's Shaykh 'Ali Khalifah al-Sabah, the last OPEC member signing the resolution, inscribed his reservations about the quota determined for his country in a footnote to the signed version of the OPEC's resolution.

He mentioned that Kuwait would not feel bound by the new agreement.

The final resolution did not cite anything about Kuwait's opposition to its approvals.

Kuwait's production quota under the new ceiling is 1.093 MBD but it wants at least 1.3 MBD.

Meanwhile, the United Arab Emirates has promised not to violate its quota during the next three months.

Egypt

Mubarak on Relations With Libya, Shamir Plan

NC0806100889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0855 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has affirmed that Egypt's relations with Libya are proceeding normally. He expressed his hope that the two countries' relationship will reach an unblemished status in accordance with the international framework governing the relations among the world's countries.

Speaking to reporters after casting his ballot in the Consultative Council elections today, President Mubarak said the entire world is searching for peace and is seeking reconciliation among neighboring and other countries. He referred in this respect to the reconciliation between the United States and the Soviet Union on one hand and between the Soviet Union and China on the other.

Asked what call Egypt would like to address to the new regime in Tehran, President Mubarak said: "All I could say in this respect is peace. Peace is a very precious thing. It means saving the souls of thousands, if not millions, and raising the peoples' standard."

Asked about the role of the Egyptian Consultative Council in the coming era, President Mubarak said: "The tasks assigned to the Consultative Council are specified in the Constitution, which is the source of all the laws and the overall authority."

The president was then asked about the efforts of the tripartite committee entrusted with resolving the Lebanese crisis. He expressed his confidence and hope that the committee, which comprises the Saudi and Moroccan monarchs as well as the Algerian president, will reach a solution that will achieve Lebanon's independence and sovereignty over its territories.

Regarding Egypt's reservations over Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's initiative and whether Egypt has received any clarifications regarding its queries over the details of the initiative, President Mubarak said: "Egypt supports the elections in the West Bank and Gaza, and it supports this proposal. However, there are several questions that must be answered so that things will be clear."

Asked if the forthcoming visit to Israel of Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, falls within the context of the Egyptian questions, President Mubarak said: "The visit is within the framework of bilateral relations, the problems that might arise between us; and the peace efforts to resolve the Palestinian issue, which is the core of the problem."

'Abd-al-Majid on Elections in Gaza, West Bank

NC0706155389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] London, 7 Jun (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said that the notion of elections has a democratic aspect that cannot be rejected but elections in the occupied Arab territories in the manner proposed by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir are shrouded by ambiguity and need to be clarified.

In a statement broadcast by the BBC today, Dr 'Abd-al-Majid stressed that the aim of the Camp David agreement between Egypt and Israel was to reach a final settlement to the Palestinian issue. He said that autonomy is not an end in itself but a step that ends with a complete settlement of the Palestinian issue and with the Palestinian people getting their right to self-determination. He noted that this has been Egypt's stand both before and after Camp David. He also stressed that Egypt does not agree to let the matter end with autonomy in the occupied Arab territories.

The Egyptian minister said that the notion of land in return for peace is included in UN Resolution 242. He said this notion means the Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and that if a transitory period is necessary, it must be followed immediately by a final settlement to the Palestinian issue. He stressed that any elections proposed to the Palestinian people must be coupled with a communication to this people that there is a transitory period to be followed by the final solution.

Dr 'Abd-al-Majid called for continuing the contacts and the dialogue and for exerting all efforts in the direct contacts with Israel or through the United States and the Security Council member states to convince Israel to respond to the efforts to bring about the final settlement to the Palestinian issue.

In his statement to the BBC, Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said that Britain can exercise its influence on Israel because of its position in Europe, its relations with the countries of the region, and its knowledge of the Middle East situation. He added that positive and constructive trends have appeared recently in the U.S. stands on the Middle East problem.

Al-Baz Meets Occupied Territories Delegation

NC0706152689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1506 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jun (MENA)—Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, met today with a Palestinian delegation from the occupied Arab territories. The delegation is currently visiting Egypt.

Following the 90-minute meeting, delegation Chairman Radwan Abu-'Abbas said that discussions dealt with the developments in the occupied Arab territories in light of Israel's represssive measures against the Palestinian people there. He added that the discussions also dealt with the means of giving an impetus to the peace process and reaching a peaceful solution to the Palestinian issue that ensures the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Abu-'Abbas praised Egyptian-Palestinian cooperation in this regard. He said that Egypt is giving unlimited support to the Palestinian people's struggle, particularly in the political field. He referred to Egypt's Arab and international role in backing the Palestinian people's struggle and also praised the Casablanca summit resolutions for supporting the Arab and Palestinian stands. He expressed hope that these resolutions will be implemented very soon.

Message Sent to 'Arafat

NC0706135789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has sent a message to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat on the latest developments in the Palestinian issue and the on-going contacts at the international level to establish Palestinian rights.

The PLO representative in Cairo, Sa'qid Kamal, said he received this message during his meeting last night with Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the president's office for political affairs.

Official Cited on Relations With Libya

NC0706141189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jun (MENA)—Ambassador Nabil al-Sallawi, head of the Foreign Ministry's Africa Department, has stated that the issue of the exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and Libya is purely a question of formality because bilateral relations have returned to normal.

In a statement to MENA, Ambassador Al-Sallawi said that during the Egyptian Delegation's talks with Libyan officials in Tripoli recently, an agreement was made to restore the situation to its normal state. He noted that all the conditions exist for good results, particularly following the fraternal and cordial meeting between President Husni Mubarak and Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on the sidelines of the Casablanca summit meetings.

Speaking on the issue of compensations for Egyptians in Libya, Ambassador al-Sallawi said that the Libyan side has shown understanding and cooperation on this issue during the talks held there by the labor union delegation. But he noted that this issue cannot be solved at one session; thus, it was agreed to hold another round of talks on this issue to satisfy those concerned.

He added that the Egyptian business delegation agreed with Libyan officials to hold a meeting between the Egyptian and Libyan Chambers of Commerce in order to discuss aspects of cooperation between the two chambers in the interest of both countries.

A popular and official Egyptian delegation that included a number of figures visited Tripoli for several hours early this week.

Tripartite Summit Denied

NC0706102789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, June 7 (MENA)—A Foreign Ministry spokesman today denied a report published by "AL-SHA'B" newspaper on preparations for a tripartite summit involving the leaders of Egypt, Libya, and Sudan.

The source described the report as totally unfounded pointing out that there was no plan for holding such a meeting.

Libyan Envoy on Cairo Talks

NC0706132389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jun (MENA)—Ahmad Qadhdhafi al-Damm, the special emissary of Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, expects relations between Egypt and the Libyan Jamahiriyah to return to normal very soon.

In a statement to MENA, he said that his talks in Cairo were completely positive and noted the two peoples' desire to restore their fraternal relations that have not been severed. The Libyan emissary stressed that he and other Libyan officials from all levels will visit Egypt in the future within the framework of the excellent relations between the two countries.

The Libyan emissary left Cairo yesterday at the end of an 8 day visit during which he was received by President Husni Mubarak.

Mubarak Receives Iraqi Envoy, Message

NC0606131889 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today received Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi, Iraq's minister of transport and communications and an envoy of the Iraqi president. Al-Zubaydi handed Mubarak a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. Present at the meeting was the Iraqi ambassador to Cairo.

Columnist Urges Normal Ties With Iran

JN0706210189 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 6 Jun 89 p 12

["From the Heart" column by Muhsin Muhammad]

[Text] Ahmad Khomeyni, 44, was preparing himself to follow his father, the late imam, in leading Iran. He worked as director of his office and therefore controlled the administration of the country and knew the ins and outs of its internal affairs. He imposed religious men of his choice on the ranking positions in the state's various organs.

However, Ahmad Khomeyni failed to succeed his father; 'Ali Khamene'i was chosen instead. Obviously, the change in succession was not easy since the Council of Experts meeting lasted 8 hours until they agreed on the successor.

Ahmad Khomeyni had overthrown Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, the designated successor of Khomeyni, last march. It was said that Montazeri had resigned. It was also said that he was deported. The expected result was to choose the imam's son. To the good fortune of Iran and the rest of the world, like numerous other countries throughout history, Iran proved once more that leadership and succession are not hereditary and that leadership is hereditary only in a monarchial and not religious system.

All that is hoped by those who sympathize with Iran is that the struggle for power is finally settled for Khamene'i. It is hoped that the power issue has been actually resolved, without hidden conflicts among those struggling for power within the council of experts, or any ruling council which enjoys absolute power, where Khamene'i fits only as a symbol.

A collective leadership whose aim is to advise, allow for varying opinions, and reach sound decisions is a successful leadership. On the other hand, a collective leadership which entails power struggle is a bad one because it allows for the continuation of disputes and tolerates compromises, which conceal either contradictory decisions or ones aimed at disguising differences.

Khamene'i can prove his competence. Moreover, he can exploit his being selected in public and utilize his election as a successor to the deceased imam. Thus, he can change leaders, conclude a final peace treaty with Iraq, and normalize iran's tense relations with most of the world states. He can also discuss matters with everyone concerned to remove tension from the Middle East in the interest of Iran and the peoples of the area.

It is the duty of the states neighboring Iran as well as all friendly states to approach Iran in the coming period of time, give it sincere advice, and restore diplomatic and normal relations with it so that the new regime will adopt a new method aimed at reconciliation inside and outside Iran.

We may be able to imagine the entire picture of the region once Iran abides by a new policy away from domestic coercion and foreign adventures.

Those who love Iran—and they are many—hope that this Islamic state will be restored to its position as a member in the Islamic society and as a neighbor to the Arabs that abides by the policy of good neighborliness.

Indictments Against Al-Fayyum Rioters Announced

JN0706145989 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 5 Jun 89 p 10

[By Mustafa al-Tarabishi]

[Excerpt] Counsellor 'Abd-al-Majid Mahmud, public prosecutor of the Supreme State Security Court, announced yesterday the indictments in the cases of Al-Fayyum riots. The indictments called for referring 66 defendants headed by Dr 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman and including 13 juveniles to the Supreme State Security Court and the Juvenile Court.

The first case pertains to the hurling of explosives on the pavilion in which the play "Asl Wa Khamsah" was performed in Al-Fayyum and in which a lieutenant colonel was wounded. The prosecution asked for the execution of the three defendants in this case.

The second case involved 49 defendants. The prosecution called for handing them hard labor sentences for staging demonstrations and possessing arms and explosives.

The third case implicated 14 defendants for their distribution of leaflets and arms. The prosecution asked for imprisonment terms for these defendants. The referral decisions also involved 13 juveniles who helped the defendants in the distribution of leaflets and transporting weapons. [passage omitted]

New Islamic Group Members Arrested for Riots

JN0706113189 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 5 Jun 89 p 7

[By 'Abd-al-Warith Zuwayn]

[Text] Investigations of the Al-Fayyum riots early last Ramadan [April] indicated a new organization, a dissident faction of the Al-Jihad organization and led by defendant Ahmad 'Ali al-Khuli, a student at the Faculty of Letters at Cairo University. Eleven young men, who are members of this organization, were arrested. This organization made Al-Ghuraba' Mosque in Al-Fayyum a stronghold for its activities. It also advocates the overthrow of the regime without the use of violence.

Usamah Qandil, head of Al-Fayyum prosecution, was entrusted with investigating this case.

Pope Shanudah Cited on Fanaticism, Parties

JN0606202089 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic
31 May 89 pp 1, 9

[Interview with Coptic Pope Shanudah by correspondents Misbah Qutb and Sulayman Shafiq at the Coptic Patriarchate in Al-'Abbasiyah, Cairo—date not given]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Your Holiness, a few days ago Professor Fahmi Huwaydi presented a plan to strengthen national bonds entitled "The Fraternity Charter." In reply to this plan, William Sulayman Qiladah criticized Huwaydi for borrowing the terms "majority" and "minority" from the constitutional lexicon and using them in the wrong place. He also criticized him for identifying the majority with religion and the minority with culture and civilization. Do we really need such a charter, or has the Egyptian reality gone beyond such things?

[Shanudah] What do you mean by going beyond such things?

[Correspondent] I mean what Dr William himself said; namely, that historical, constitutional, and social facts in Egypt since 1866—the year of the first parliament—go beyond what is proposed in the Fraternity Charter.

[Shanudah] We have agreed right from the beginning to talk sensibly. So, I think we agree that there are people who do not work for fraternity or its charters. The problem is not one of drawing up new charters but of carrying out what already exists to enable every citizen to secure his rights. I am not one of those who talk for the love of talking. I also do not want to say repeatedly that we did this and that during the 1919 revolution. What concerns the simple citizen is what is going on today. I have only read a few lines of Fahmi Huwaydi's charter.

[Correspondent] Do you not think that going back often to the 1919 revolution in any dialogue on national unity essentially means that the revolution, the awakening, and "the national plan" are the factors that create unity?

[Shanudah] Whoever wants to discuss the Christians' issues must sit down and discuss things with them. Love and frankness lead to the resolution of all problems.

[Correspondent] But, Your Holiness, it has been observed that only you are stressing the Christians' problems. The majority of Copts are avoiding these problems in their places of work and residence. Moreover, problems are now raised in quiet channels with the sovereign institutions. How is the dialogue conducted?

[Shanudah] My relations with the state are indeed good now.

[Correspondent] You are part of the state.

[Shanudah] My relations with all my Muslim friends are also good. I have numerous Muslim friends. However, the main issue is extremism, which disturbs the atmosphere, affects the general public, and leads to bad results, such as restricting people who want to build a church.

[Correspondent] Dr Milad Hanna has an opinion on this matter which is worth adopting. He says the Development Planning Law should organize the building of houses of worship as part of the requirements of the city or a new quarter.

[Shanudah] This proposal already exists in the current development planning laws. As you know, the building of a church requires a presidential decision. Such a decision is only issued on the basis of a report submitted by the Interior Ministry. Such a security report takes into consideration the reactions of the extremists, of course. So, the result is that the church is not built, despite its existence in the development planning blueprints. The matter may require the development planning decision to be made by the president only. This, of course, would apply to both churches and mosques. There should be no need for other permits.

[Correspondent] There are no limits to love and frankness, which is why we sometimes think of the need for the Social Research Center to examine the thoughts of every side toward the other. For instance, why do some people think that churches are mysterious places that are full of weapons, gold, and conspiracy?

[Shanudah] If you stumble upon gold while entering a church, give me half of it. Unfortunately, high-ranking people used to believe such superstitions. This made me say one day: The churches are open for any search by the security forces.

[Correspondent] The question, Your Holiness, is why do some people believe such things, and who encourages such beliefs and in what atmosphere? We are not asking if this is true or not.

[Shanudah] I suggest that you keep this subject of Christians and Muslims out of the press completely. Such matters are resolved by practical means, not by opening the door to fanaticism.

[Correspondent] We talk about the [National Progressive Unionist] Grouping as an example that we know. We stress that the grouping's door is open and there are many Christians among its leaders and cadres. Your Holiness may know Abu-Sayf Yusuf, Philip Jallab, Milad Hanna, 'Aryan Nasif, and Ramzi Fahim. By the way, it seems that some have interpreted your wise statement on the Christian party as a call for avoiding politics.

[Shanudah] I have never said that. I said we are Egyptians and we accede to Egyptian parties. Everyone joins the party that appeals to his political inclinations. The church does not pressure anyone. If a party is founded on

a religious basis, that would be some sort of division. If a Christian party is founded, would it be open for all Egyptians or for Christians only, and would the Muslims cooperate or not? We want to consolidate the factors of unity, merger, and cooperation, not division and fragmentation. There is no doubt that any Christian party will be an element of divisiveness. Such a party will not be joined by Muslims or even moderate Christians. Who will then accede to it? It will be a party without a future and will be stillborn. We want parties for the country and not for the communities. This does not mean that people should not work in politics. The church encourages people to register their names in voter lists and positively participate in elections. The parties will then encourage people to join them.

As for the society and other groups you mentioned, these should be viewed within the framework of the foreign societies within which they are working. Everyone is allowed to criticize anything and the freedom of parties, press, and demonstrations is guaranteed. A society existing abroad should not be condemned solely because it is abroad. The Arab political forces in general had and some of them continue to have several papers and radio stations abroad. The church cannot here reply to or be responsible for what is disseminated there. The best reply is always the sound practical position. Sometimes I say the Muslim brothers should adopt the Christians' problems in order to avoid sensitivity and embarrassment.

[Correspondent] We are not against those abroad, Sir, but specifically against our inability to discuss our problems here without embarrassment and even without making the Muslim alone responsible for discussing the Christians' problems.

[Shanudah] The clergyman is confused about his responsibilities. If he talks about a certain matter, he will be told not to talk about politics. At the same time he is sometimes requested to condemn someone's interference in the affairs of a certain state or to denounce the interference of that one in the so-and-so state. Is this not politics, too? Out of love I appeal to you to give up talk about Christians and Muslims.

[Correspondent] It is possible to confine talk about what is abroad in an unembarrassing point, which is the Christian funds there. We believe a major role can be played by the spiritual leaders in order to return the "religious" funds to the afflicted country and, Your Holiness, you are about to visit the United States.

[Shanudah] I will visit the United States on a mission, not to collect. I do not like to see a man of religion act as a rent collector. Moreover, the money you are talking about may have left the country legitimately and was earned from a legitimate business. How can it then be returned away from the economic laws?

[Correspondent] There are many worries in the country. There is for instance the issue of economic subservience. We believe that Muslim and Christian spiritual leaders can play a role in this regard as they occupy a special place in the people's hearts and as the matter no longer concerns only the politicians.

[Shanudah] There is no country in this world which does not import from other countries. Even the United States imports from Japan and China. It is difficult for any state to be self-sufficient in all spheres. Otherwise, there would be no trade exchange. What is important is that we should not be indebted to anyone. The two important things that cause this problem are production shortage and increased population. The population explosion swallows up all the country's revenues, something which compels us to import. In order to do so, we need hard currency. Hence, borrow and get into additional economic problems. Therefore, production must be increased. [passage omitted]

Cabinet Approves 1989-90 Development Plan

NC0706145189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Cairo, 7 Jun (MENA)—The cabinet met today under Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi. It approved the socio-economic development plan for 1989-90 as part of the second 5-year plan. The cabinet approved the plan prior to submitting it to the People's Assembly for debate during its sessions which begin Saturday [10 June].

This was stated by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif. He said that the state's general budget and the plan will go into effect on 1 July. He added that during its discussions, the cabinet underlined the importance of developing financial and monetary policies; increasing income from foreign currencies in order to improve the trade balance; and increasing the necessary financing in the 1st quarter of the new fiscal year for priority projects in the agricultural and industrial sectors and for the project supplying houses with natural gas. [passage omitted]

The information minister said that the 1989-90 plan aims to implement investments totalling 14.5 billion pounds, including 9.6 billion pounds for the public sector and 4.9 billion pounds for the private sector. It also aims to increase the national product to 47.8 billion pounds instead of 45.4 billion pounds, that is, a 5.2 percent increase. The plan also includes the implementation of the infrastructure projects. This includes the reclamation of 175,000 feddans, including 25,000 feddans to be reclaimed by the private sector. Other infrastructure projects include increasing cement production from 13.9 million tons to 15.5 million tons; reinforced steel production from 1.022 million tons to 1.127 million tons; sugar production from 970,000 tons to 1 million tons; and nitric fertilizers production from 5 million tons to 5.3 million tons.

The minister added that the basic environmental projects include the building of 200,000 housing units, including 125,000 low-cost units and 22,000 rural units in the areas of land reclamation. This is in addition to increasing the number of telephone lines by 170,000 and increasing the production of potable water to 11 million cubic meters daily instead of 10 million. The provinces will be allocated 4.1 million cubic meters of this water.

The minister said that the cabinet also heard a report from the interior minister on the security forces' role in discovering and foiling terrorist plans and extremism and the on-going campaigns against drug dealers and users. [passage omitted]

Government Employees Receive Pay Raise

JN0706125289 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 5 Jun 89 p 1

[By Kamil Mursi]

[Text] AL-AKHBAR has learned that a 15 percent salary increment will be given to government and public sector employees and salaried people as of the next July salary. The necessary sum for this increment and the regular increments has been set aside from the general budget. This sum amounts to approximately 800 million [Egyptian] pounds. Discussion now centers on the minimum and maximum increments.

This increment comes within the employment reform program for state employees which is taking place in stages. Five million government and private sector employees will benefit from this increment, in addition to two million salaried people. It is known that during the past 2 years, social increments have been disbursed to workers amounting to 35 percent of the salary.

AL-AKHBAR also learned that discussions are currently taking place on whether to consider this increment as part of the salary or as a social increment. Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi is concerned to arrange the necessary sums for the additional increment through real revenues so that no inflation will take place leading to price increases which would render the increment ineffective.

AL-AKHBAR also learned that the decision to raise the price of cigarettes will achieve a revenue for the General Treasury estimated at 350 million Egyptian pounds.

The cabinet will hold a meeting on Wednesday morning under the chairmanship of Dr 'Atif Sidqi to discuss the economic and social development plan for the fiscal year 1989-90 in light of the report prepared by Dr Kamal al-Janzuri [minister of planning].

No Commodity Price Increase

JN0706140289 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 5 Jun 89 p 1

[By Nasir al-Ba'thi]

[Text] Manpower Minister 'Asim 'Abd-al-Haq has announced that 1 billion pounds have been allocated to raise wages as of 1 July when the new state budget will be announced. Efforts are being exerted now to define the percentage of the increase and to search for new revenues to finance the pay increase in the coming 3 or 4 years. The manpower minister announced this at the popular conference held at the agricultural exhibition in Al-Duqqi in the presence of Dr Kamal Abu-al-Khayr, secretary general of the National Democratic Party.

The manpower minister added that the new budget will not include any increase in the prices of the basic commodities. He also affirmed that there will be no increase in the gasoline prices. He noted that some merchants increase the prices when any increase in wages is announced. He added that the new factories in the present plan have 200,000 job opportunities including 60,000 in the 6 October factories.

Cigarette Prices Increased

JN0606095989 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 4 Jun 89 pp 1, 11

[By 'Ayid 'Atwah and Isma'il Badr]

[Text] The new prices for local cigarettes were implemented yesterday. The price increase varies from 15 to 20 piasters per pack as a consumer tax. The expected overall amount to be collected from this price increase will be some 250 million pounds a year. Thus, the consumer tax on every pack of local cigarettes has gone up to 52.6 piasters from 37.6.

With respect to the imported tobacco that is packed locally under license from international companies, the consumer tax varies from 62.6 piasters to 67.6.

The new prices of cigarettes are as follows: 100 piasters a pack for Cleopatra, Super Cleopatra Lights, and Belmont; and 115 piastres for a pack of Lux cigarettes.

The Marlboro, Rothman, Silk Cut, and Kent brands, which are produced locally under international license, have been increased in price by 20 piasters a pack.

Libya

GPC Secretary Attends Khomeyni Funeral

LD0706194689 Tripoli JANA in English 0813 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, Al-Sayf [June] 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The secretary of the General People's Congress [GPC] and his accompanying delegation participated yesterday in the funeral of the Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Iraqi President's Envoy

LD0706201989 Tripoli JANA in English 0825 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of revolution has received Mr. 'Abdallah Fadil 'Abbas, the personal envoy of Mr. Saddam Husayn, president of sisterly Iraq.

Al-Qadhdhafi's Speech to Farmers' Union

LD0606002689 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2004 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Speech by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the General Union of Farmers; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] The Libyan people have allocated a large sum of money to converting land into farms. Well, you have to repay the people the price in installments over many years, 20 years, in small installments that do not affect you much. The people as a whole cannot give up their budget for the benefit of just one part of society free of charge. Otherwise, the budget would have to be divided and given to various sectors free of charge, and then you would see what happens!

For instance, the great man-made river: The Libyan people paid money for it, billions. Let us suppose that we use it to irrigate farms you own. Have the Libyan people allocated all these billions just to irrigate your farms? Suppose for instance you say: No, we will not pay it back. This would be unreasonable. At least, the people will say to you: Pay us back the costs of the river with your farms. Therefore, the river must be publicly owned; the projects it irrigates must be publicly owned. But if it passes through privately owned farms, then the owners must pay for the water they use for irrigation. Otherwise, how could the people pay billions for a project and then give it to just one group for nothing? Good, this group will benefit but then it will have to pay back the costs to the people.

If we pay, for instance 1 billion dinars to establish farms and then hand them over to 5,000 to 10,000 families, well the people would have paid 1 billion to 10,000 families to create farms; this would not be free of charge. The people would not say: Here you are, we give you 1 billion. Good, you have become farmers; you have established farms to make a livelihood for you and your children. But you have to pay back the 1 billion to the people in installments, small installments from your production. This is clear, otherwise there will not be any more payments for the people's budget for any sector. In that case, we would not be able to carry out any project.

Regarding the poor, those who have no homes, and the needy: The people may allocate part of the general budget for them and would not ask them to pay it back. It allocates part of the budget for them without asking for repayment. If there are people who are poor, really poor, and who cannot build homes, we build homes for them; or, if there is someone whose house is destroyed by fire or whatever, you compensate him. If there is someone who is needy, you give him a pension. We cannot ask such people to pay back money. This is known, the people would bear these expenses.

Always, all over the world, when you board a train or enter a place they ask you to pay. For what? For social security, for the handicapped, for the needy, for the poor. You do not ask for repayments from them. This is a fact. The people bear these expenses. But if the people create a productive project and a sector benefits from it, then this cannot be free of charge. When you pay for it, you expect to be repaid. This is just an example. Suppose a great man-made river is created, suppose we have made efforts and paid for it, and suppose for instance that we use it only to benefit peasant farms, while the other Libyans who have paid the money, billions, sit back and watch the water flowing toward your farm, his farm, or another farm; just suppose. This would not be reasonable.

Where is the logic? They would say we have been waiting all these years and spent all these billions just to see you buying these people's farms while we sat watching. Afterward they would say you should give us back some of the harvest and give us back the money we paid for the river. This would apply in the same manner to the farms that have been established throughout the country since the revolution and have become productive. The people should demand their owners to give back the loan money. The people are not demanding all the money since the farms became productive retroactively. I am sure there are other people who are not farmers, the consumers—who are conscious and intelligent—who can make the basic people's congresses promulgate a bill to compel you to pay the people in one way or another. If you do not want to pay agreeably, the people will wait for you to sell your harvest and then impose a tax on you. You will then discover that whenever you make a move you have to pay until all your dues are paid.

There are people who are conscious and are hit by the increase in prices. They know full well that the people have given a budget to this project which has yet to be paid back. So if the farmer says I do not care and they are just talking nonsense, no one should tolerate such an utterance. Some segments of the people will not tolerate it: The people who are conscious and intelligent, the people who care for the money they have spent on you.

So they will create a movement at the basic people's congresses to issue a bill to impose taxes. Then if you sell your sheep you are only free to do so if you pay a fixed levy for every sheep you sell. The people contributed to their breeding, they helped you to buy them, to feed them, to water them, and provide veterinary care; all these things were provided for you by a people's budget.

These companies—feed, equipment, agricultural equipment, and channels of distribution—are all provided to you from the country's budget. He might say it was our oil that [words indistinct] therefore they would hold you accountable; they would say it was our money that created all these companies and sites. Therefore they will levy taxes on you; if you slaughter sheep you pay taxes, if you sell it you pay taxes, and you pay taxes for grazing.

The people are supposed to call us to account even concerning these roads, the nice new roads which look like the roads in Europe. It is a fact that if we use them, then we have to pay for the service, so that we can pay for their maintenance. Today we build an excellent road and tomorrow we may damage it with our cars because we use the wrong part of the road, or if we use a heavy vehicle on a road made for light vehicles. Such roads have signs saying: This road's limit is 50 tons and if we use a 70-ton vehicle on the road we will damage it.

We are supposed to pay fines and tolls to travel. But if you come to a Libyan and say, "Pay the toll," he will say: Oh, yes, here we are, now we have to pay for using a road. You did not know about these roads before. This is something new. We did not pay for using a road before, but then we did not have roads, we knew nothing of asphalt roads. When these roads come, they are accompanied by their problems, payments.

People might say: Look, we even pay for water. Well, yes, you are expected to pay fees for water, for electricity, for telephones. You must, even though you do not want to. These are new things. You say: We even pay for the telephone, even for talking. Well, yes, you did not have this before. In the past have you ever used a telephone? Now that the telephone is there, you have to accept the problem accompanying it—its cost. If you do not want to pay the bill, then the telephone will be cut off. If you do not pay the road toll, then drive elsewhere.

Roads themselves are new to us. We should not be surprised at tolls. Otherwise why not ask the question: Why do we have to use an asphalt road? If we are surprised by the road toll, then we should also be surprised when using the road.

We are forming a 20th-century society, and one for the 21st century, a modern society to deal with an extremely advanced world, a world that has reached the Moon. When they reached the Moon, we said they were turning us into apostates. We said: How is it possible to reach the Moon? In Sabha someone was making a speech; I was a student then. He was saying: Never listen to what they are saying to the effect that they have reached the Moon. The Moon is a light-emitting body that cannot be touched. He was a graduate from Al-Azhar Institute. He said: They are turning you into apostates, shaking your faith. He said: The Moon is a light-emitting body that cannot be reached or descended upon. And the Moon proved to be other than a light-emitting body; it just reflects the rays of the sun, and has mountains, riverbeds; and they know its high and low temperatures. They gave names to its mountains, and placed the U.S. and Russian [as heard] flags on it.

And all this world, all the peoples are seeking to conquer space. The Israelis—who are shabby Jews and who only recently used to sell dye—have now made an artificial satellite that takes pictures of us while we are sitting here. And we are all on the march toward manufacturing artificial satellites, space rockets. All these are new things.

We have entered this era and are surprised at how the Moon can be reached. No need to be surprised; you pay for everything, for the telephone, for your farm, for the roads you drive on. They tell you there is a tax; they tell you walk on the right, not on the left.

You should pay charges on the farm; you should pay taxes; you should respect the bills. You should respect the highway code, otherwise you will not be able to live in this world; just go and stay in a tent or live in a cave. What is this? In the past, we had no doctor to treat us. Now there are doctors, surgeons, and therapists. In return, there should be bills and payment; we should pay for medication and everything.

The problem now is social backwardness during a period of progress. We want to take the path of progress; but people are so backward that they cannot conceive of this phase. If your country is at war and they tell you it is at war, you should not run away. How can you go to another country and run away from battle? This is your destiny and fate. If your country is at war and you have been trained to go to war, you should go to war until death; it is not up to you to decide to run away. This is not done.

Why did the United States not flee to China when it was at war against Vietnam? Those Americans who went to war against Vietnam had to wage war against Vietnam because their country decided this. Americans these days oppose the war in Vietnam, but this is another issue. During the election campaign, the current U.S. President nominated his deputy. When he did so, they told him that this person dodged the Vietnam War and joined the National Guard instead. He did not join the Army. Why did he run away from war? They asked him, despite the fact that they opposed this war. Because the United States decided to go to war against Vietnam at the time, he should have gone to Vietnam. They wanted to block his nomination as vice president.

This is not the way; the world has progressed. You have the means; there are countries at war with you. [sentence as received] The world has progressed immensely; this is not the time of yesterday; we should not be backward. We should not neglect our duties and missions, otherwise we will live in chaos and nothing will work. We will not be able to advance or set up a budget or project and live like we used to.

Who is asking about the price of water? Has anybody ever asked you to pay for water in the past? No, because there was nobody who was interested in bringing water to you. Now the state provides water for you; it desalinates water. It brings water from the desert or from underground using very expensive machinery. All these things entail expenses. The bill should be respected.

If a farmer is told that the people have provided such and such a budget on farming, it should be respected. If they tell you that the price of 1 kg of meat costs such and such, you should respect the price. If you disobey and are punished, you should accept the punishment because you are the one who committed the offence. If we sell vegetables and animals the way we like and trade the way we like, people obviously will protest against you and say that these things are baseless. Modern society is based on duties and rights; it is highly structured and very intricate like beads; if dismantled, it falls apart completely. You cannot say that I will respect this and not this; either you bring me this or I will not respect it.

If your country is fighting and you desert it, you have no longer a right to a house, a farm, or health care. You even have no right to walk the streets. No one should say, "I should have a right to all these things," but when he is needed in dire times not be available. He likes a country like the United States so he goes there to conspire with it, but at the same time he would like to remain a citizen here with all these rights which no one should take away from him.

Well, this is the core of the problem; that is, I can say we are a backward society living in modern times and would like to build a modern and organized society which has modern and scientific means, although we do not believe in the latter. This is what is happening. So why would a farmer who has been given a farm which is worth 50,000 swear later that he was not prepared to pay anything back? It is possible that a decision can be made to the effect that such a farm should be returned, the farmer would be sent to prison and his belongings be confiscated because he did not pay previous installments.

Maybe your society is concerned with you now. If someone says he has a headache they would take him right away to a doctor who would see what is wrong with him. Maybe he has a contagious illness or serious illness and therefore needs an operation or whatever. If you are bitten by a snake or a scorpion they will take you to a hospital where you will need an injection which we have bought from a foreign country. We keep the serum in a refrigirator which we have also brought from a foreign country. The technician comes from abroad, as well as the doctor, who we have treat well so he will take care of you. But then you come and assert that you do not want to pay taxes or anything else.

There are some things which you are required to do for this health care, for instance, paying your installments. You even pay for your medicine. Installments have nothing to do with medicine. You should say of this society which has provided you with a doctor, medicine, refrigerators, and a nurse: When I am bitten by a scorpion, this society will take care of me, so I should perform my duties to it. If it declares war, I should fight for it. If you declare war, I will not run away. If you want me to pay installments, I will pay my installments. You want me to stick to the price list, I will stick to it.

The problem has to do with backwardness. The most important thing which I would like to say to you in conclusion is that the agricultural congresses, notwithstanding any measures which they might take following these observations, the farmers' congresses, the union of the general people's congress [as heard], the farmers' congresses should be convened before the convocation of the basic people's congresses in their last session in order to decide what the farmers want to put on the agenda of the basic people's congresses. This is the reason for the existence of the farmers' (?representative) at the Secretariat of the General People's Congress. Afterward you, as farmers, should join the basic people's congress as citizens so you will then be able to discuss opinions with the citizens regardless whether they are farmers or not. Your decision will be clearly on the agenda, as far as your proposals are concerned. However, when you meet on your own before the convening of the basic people's congresses you do so as farmers. And your decision should be reached merely upon agricultural considerations and you can say: This is what should be done. Your decisions will then be put on the agenda of the basic people's congresses.

You should join such congresses as members of the community and not as farmers, and discuss with the rest agricultural matters, production matters, security matters, and so on [words indistinct]. When we say amalgamation of companies, such a matter should be decided by the people. List prices should be decided by the people [words indistinct] and the people should decide whether something should be cheap or expensive. The repayment installments should be left to the people, to ask how much has been spent on these farmers to own these farms. Let's say billions. If the people say we should write the loans off, we will write them off. If the people say you should pay it back, they you have to pay it back. And then you must pay, because it will be in the implementation of a popular order. [chants]

Sudan

Chad's Claims Viewed as 'Declaration of War'

AB0806095089 Paris AFP in English 0246 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, June 7 (AFP)—Sudan said Wednesday [7 June] that Chadian President Hissein Habre's allegation that Sudan and Libya were preparing to attack Chad amounted to "a declaration of war."

Mr. Habre had accused Libya of preparing to send its "forces of aggression" to attack Chad "with the tacit complicity" of Sudan in a speech broadcast earlier Wednesday to mark the seventh anniversary of his accession to power.

"The aggression in preparation... is not a figment of the imagination," Mr. Habre said.

It said Mr. Habre's accusation was "unfounded," and warned that Sudan would defend itself against what it called the "Chadian threat of using force against Sudan."

Referring to another speech by Mr. Habre on May 8 in which he said Chadian troops had crossed the Sudanese border and advanced 150 kilometres (90 miles) inside Sudan, the Sudanese Foreign Ministry statement said Mr. Habre's government had long shown a "hostile attitude" to Sudan.

Mr. Habre, it said, had "trespassed the boundaries of good neighbourliness and breached international norms and conventions."

Ethiopian Demands Asylum; 'No Official Comment'

EA0706122589 Khartoum SUNA in English 1020 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 7 June (SUNA)—An Ethiopian air pilot yesterday landed his MiG-23 at Khartoum Airport and demanded political asylum, according to (?independent) daily AL-AYYAM today.

The paper said the Sudanese authorities are currently studying the possibility of granting him asylum in the country.

There is no official comment available.

Pilot Seeks To Join Family

NC0806095289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Jun (MENA)—A responsible source at Khartoum Airport has stated that the Ethiopian pilot who landed with his jet at Khartoum Airport yesterday morning [as received] and requested political asylum had asked to meet with the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum. He said that the pilot had pointed out to the airport authorities that he would like to join his family in the United States. He also said that he had been on an assignment in Asmara, but he did not specify the nature of his assignment.

The source added that the competent authorities in Khartoum are still studying the Ethiopian pilot's request for political asylum. He said that, in accordance with international norms, Khartoum will return the jet to Ethiopia.

Detained Journalists Begin Hunger Strike

EA0606144289 Khartoum SUNA in English 0955 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 6 June (SUNA)—A group of journalists entered into an open-ended hunger strike, Sunday [4 June], refusing to answer interrogators, daily independent AL-SUDAN reported today.

Muhammad Madani Tawfiq, editor of bi-weekly AL-RAYAH and his managing editor Hamid Yusif, along with two reporters, are said to be protesting their arrest and the closure of their paper.

Last month Interior Minister Mubarak al-Fadil al-Mahdi ordered the indefinite closure of AL-RAYAH in accordance with the state of emergency regulations. The bi-weekly AL-RAYAH is said to be violating a ban imposed by the government on all military news. However, no specific charge has yet been addressed against Mr Tawfiq and his paper.

The hunger-strikers are quoted by the daily as [passage indistinct].

Tunisia

France's Mitterrand Holds Tunis News Conference

LD0706205189 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Excerpts] President Francois Mitterrand of France left Tunis yesterday evening [as heard] at 2120 after a 2-day state visit. He was seen off by President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali who had accompanied his distinguished guest from the Essaada Palace in La Marsa to Tunis-Carthage International Airport. [passage omitted]

President Ben Ali had a second round of talks in private with President Mitterrand this afternoon in the Palace of the Republic in Carthage. We have learned from a reliable source that the talks covered issues of common interest concerning the cultural and social domains, including the question of creating an institute for experimental and technological sciences in Tunis, and also discussion about broadcasting in Tunisia programs of a public television channel [Antenne-2] of the French television system. [passage omitted]

In addition, at the news conference he held yesterday in the Guest House in Carthage, at the end of his state visit to Tunisia, President Francois Mitterrand affirmed that relations between Tunisia and France are very good and have lost none of their cordial character, and that they have gained a lot at the administrative level.

He said that the two sides had explored all the fields where cooperation is possible, and that some agreements have been signed during this visit. The French president reaffirmed that his country is fully prepared to contribute to setting up a Tunisian higher institute for natural and technological sciences, pointing out that the concerned ministers have already had discussions on this matter, and that experts will be invited to delineate the tasks in achieving this objective. He also said that financial agreements are being discussed, and a plan for increasing the volume of French investments in Tunis is also being detailed. He said: We are fully prepared to exert an additional effort for this goal. [passage omitted]

Concerning the Tunisian colony in France, President Mitterrand said that there are no differences between the two countries over this issue, mentioning the problem of mixed marriages and separated families which is posed with less acuity elsewhere. He noted that President Ben Ali himself has received a number of spouses to try to settle these questions, and that for his part he intends to send one of his aides to Tunis soon to discuss this dossier with Tunisian officials. He remarked that this question is the only one between the two countries, saying: We agree we must intensify our efforts to settle it.

Concerning the security of Tunisians residing in France, especially after the recent aggression in Nice, President Mitterrand said that the criminals who had been located and arrested would be punished, and that the elimination of racism is a question of education and long-term work. He said: We have progressed in this domain, all the more since the draft law now submitted for discussion in the French National Assembly could have a pedagogical dimension to persuade the French that France is an open country, and that if it is natural in a self-respecting country to expel an illegal immigrant under reasonable conditions, then those who reside legally in French territory must be protected by law.

Concerning entry visas for foreign visitors to France, President Mitterrand said that it is premature to go back on this matter, stressing that the procedure now in force has been implemented with some flexibility for more than 2 years.

Regarding the future of cooperation between the EEC and the Arab Maghreb Union [UMA], President Mitterrand pointed out that during his 6-month mandate due to begin on 1 August at the head of the EEC, he intends to go to the capital of the next chairman of UMA, on behalf of the EEC, to discuss ways of organizing relations between the two groups in order to block the way to any tradef or political hegemony.

Concerning the problem of the Middle East, President Mitterrand noted that the Palestinian National Council has put forward proposals that have broken with previous attitudes, given the fact that there has been a positive acceptance of the requests made simultaneously by the United Nations and some superpowers, such as the United States and France, urging the sides to accept the principle of mutual recognition in accordance with specified bases, and that since that date the PLO has taken a step forward, which is considered by a number of countries—and particularly a number of Western countries, including France—as a decisive step.

President Mitterrand further said that since that date he considered that Yasir 'Arafat could come to Paris, and that such a visit would be useful from this point of view.

He said that the first UN resolution had adopted the principle of setting up two states, each of which must have a territory, and that today it is necessary to revive this resolution. But President Mitterrand stressed that the gap between the Palestinian and Israeli positions is still wide and deep, recalling that he had said to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir that war and instability will continue in the region so long as he insists on rejecting this possibility, and that in the final analysis this serves the interests of none of the regional countries.

President Mitterrand noted that the international situation of this arduous problem has not changed, and that despite this the Palestinian side has made daring efforts. He said that it is really regretable that all these concessions should be wasted, stressing that Israel shoulders the responsibility for this failure which harms everybody.

He voiced the hope that reason will eventually prevail, pointing out that convening an international peace conference on the Middle East will be worthwhile only if it brings together all the region's countries and all the concerned parties, as well as the Security Council permanent member states.

Kuwait

UK Trade Secretary Cited on Economic Ties

JN3005162589 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 29 May 89 p 1

[By 'Abd-al-Fattah Darwish]

[Text] Lord Young, British secretary of state for trade and industry, has informed AL-QABAS that he cannot give Kuwait guarantees that his country will not take future measures against Kuwaiti investments similar to the measures taken by Britain when it insisted on reducing Kuwaiti shares in "British Petroleum." However, he voiced the belief that such measures would probably not be taken in the future.

The British secretary affirmed that his country will maintain its trade relations with Kuwait and seek to strengthen these relations. He added that the EEC, which will reach its peak in 1992, will not be "a fortress" taking protectionist measures against imports and obstructing international trade.

In a statement made upon his arrival in the country yesterday, Lord Young indicated that his Kuwait visit, which is the first since he assumed his post, seeks to enable him to hold talks with Kuwaiti officials in order to enhance bilateral trade and economic relations. He added that there is no specific agenda for his talks.

Young expressed satisfaction with the level of British-Kuwaiti trade and investment relations and said that the bilateral trade is excellent. He added that the Kuwaiti Investment Bureau is an active investor in Britain.

Faysal 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Khalid, Kuwaiti minister of commerce and industry, who welcomed the British secretary upon his arrival yesterday, said that the visit will not result in the signing of specific agreements or projects. He added that the talks will deal with ways to enhance bilateral ties.

Al-Khalid said that Kuwait and the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] member states continuously seek to bolster their trade relations with various regions, blocs, and states. He added that the GCC committees hold constant contacts and dialogues with the EC representatives with the aim of strengthening trade relations with this community.

Al-Khalid indicated that he will seek to make the visit of the British secretary one that is surrounded with an atmosphere of warmness and friendliness and to make the meetings to be held with him positive, particularly as this is his first visit to the country. He added that this visit must be utilized to encourage the holding of contacts and to open dialogues.

Further on Economic Ties

JN0106153789 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 31 May 89 p 7

[Text] British Trade and Industry Secretary Lord Young has assured Kuwait that closer European economic ties envisaged beginning 1992 will not affect Britain's traditional good relations with the Gulf.

Addressing newsmen at the British Embassy yesterday, Lord Young said the UK wanted to "assure" Kuwait that it would boost traditional relations.

After 1992, he said, the longstanding ties between the two trading partners would be "a bridge between Gulf states and Europe."

AP reports that a "further closing of EEC ranks could translate into stiffer customs duties or tighter trade barriers for outsiders." Quoting diplomatic sources, it said that Kuwait has possibly more than five billion dollars invested in Britain.

The GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] states have for years been resisting the EEC tariffs on their budding petrochemical industry exports to West Europe.

UK is the largest trading partner with the GCC as a whole. The 1987 trade figures show that the UK exported 280 million pounds worth of goods to Kuwait and imported 72 million pounds in return.

"We further hope to boost these relations," said Lord Young.

Commenting on negotiations between the GCC and the EEC, he said talks "still have to get underway" and it was too "early for specific negotiations." He did not rule out a possible economic agreement adding that such an agreement is "still to get underway."

Answering a question, Lord Young said British companies are examining a considerable number of projects. Credit facilities to companies operating in Iraq were raised to 300 million pounds. "We expect to see British companies playing a role in (Iraq's) reconstruction project," he said.

Commenting on trade ties with Iran, he said Britain would like improved trade relations with Tehran but when the political climate is better. "Since the Rushdie affair, trade with Iran has declined; in principle, we'll improve our (trade) when the political climate is better," he said.

He said Kuwaiti investments would be treated "precisely as British investments" and will be subject to British laws. He denied there has been a decline in investments following the BP [British Petroleum] shares issue.

He said the issue (of BP shares) is an incident behind us and there is no residue of any feelings anywhere.

Lord Young met separately with HH [His Highness] the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah and Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah. He also held talks with his Kuwaiti counterpart Faysal al-Khalid, Finance Minister Jasim al-Kharafi, and Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah.

Lord Young told reporters that he held "useful talks" with Kuwaiti leaders on boosting trade relations. No agreements were signed.

Lord Young and the accompanying delegation left Kuwait yesterday, ending a three-day official visit. They were seen off at the airport by Minister of Commerce and Industry Faysal al-Khalid, British Ambassador Peter Hinchcliffe and Director of the Commerce Ministry's Legal Department Yusuf Shihab al-Bahr.

Saudi Arabia

'High Tension' Prevails on YAR Border

JN0706154189 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1430 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] An Arab diplomatic source in Damascus said today that high tension has been prevailing in the border area between Saudi Arabia and the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR] since last Friday [2 June] when a Saudi military patrol entered Yemeni territory and engaged a Yemeni patrol. It was not reported whether any victims fell in this military engagement. The source added that this engagement took place in an area in which a Western oil company was drilling oil fields. This news was not confirmed by any other source.

Border Tensions Denied

LD0806001889 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2355 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Riyadh, 7 June (SPA)—Denying a report disseminated by AFP today, Wednesday 7 June, citing what it called an Arab diplomatic source in Damascus and saying that acute tension prevailed on the border between Saudi Arabia and South Yemen, a responsible source has told SPA: "There is no truth to that report, which is intended to incite and confuse. The matter was nothing more than a normal accidental incident between border patrols; and it was dealt with then and there by the competent authorities of the two brotherly countries."

The source added: "The solid brotherly relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen cannot be touched by these tendentious reports."

At the end of his statement, the source said: As for the Israeli radio report today that acute tension prevails on the border between Saudi Arabia and North Yemen, there is absolutely no truth to this and no attention should be paid to it.

Yemen Arab Republic

President Receives Iraqi Minister, Saddam Letter

JN0506124289 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office this afternoon, brother Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi, [Arab Socialist Ba'th Party] Regional Command member, and communications and transport minister in the sisterly Republic of Iraq, emissary of President Saddam Husayn. He handed a letter from His Excellency President Saddam Husayn to his brother President Salih on Arab developments and matters related to the Arab Cooperation Council as well as bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by brother Muhammad al-Khadim al-Wajih, minister of telecommunications and Standing Committee member. Also present was the Iraqi ambassador in Sanaa.

The Iraqi minister arrived in Sanaa earlier in the day.

Saddam on Peace With Iran, Reconstruction
JN0706192989 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1807 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn has affirmed that we are observing the cease-fire and persistently endeavoring to persuade Iran to turn the cease-fire into a durable peace so that Iran can live freely in accordance with its choices, and so that our bilateral relations may stabilize away from any possibility of a re-eruption of war or aggression.

In a reception accorded this evening to the head and members of the Iraqi-U.S. Working Committee, His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn added: We have to cooperate to make Iran head toward peace, toward what makes it free in its own country [as heard], and toward what makes the region free in its choices. His excellency the president went on to say: As for us, we are helping Iran in this decision. We are performing reconstruction efforts in Basra which is in range of Iranian artillery. We are also carrying out reconstruction efforts in al-Faw which is in range of Iranian rifles. Thus, we want to tell Iran that life should be dedicated to construction rather than destruction.

His excellency the president leader pointed out that Iraq believes that wealth lies in the minds and fists of men and that for this reason, we are laying emphasis on man and on making him an active and cultured element capable of seeing different aspects of life, whether within or outside his specialty, and seeing the accurate performance of the job as the highest ideal.

His excellency the president went on to say: You can feel that we have started along this path. We are in the beginning. However, we are proceeding steadily.

On Iraqi-U.S. relations, His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn said: It is correct that we remember the Irangate scandal. However, we are not like those who remain obsessed with the complexes of the past. No, we view the present through future prospects. Besides, our people have confidence in their leadership. That is why we do not suffer from any complexes in this regard. But, we hope that a something similar to the Irangate scandal will not be repeated.

His excellency the president leader voiced his happiness over meeting the head and members of the Iraqi-U.S. Working Committee and expressed satisfaction over the sentiments expressed by the committee members toward Iraq. A number of the committee members spoke at the outset of the meeting and voiced their satisfaction with the hospitality and good treatment accorded to them in Iraq. They paid tribute to the results of their meetings with the Iraqi officials who gave them the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the persistent march of construction going on in Iraq during the cease-fire and also with the economic policy being pursued by Iraq in light of the instructions of His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn.

In order to improve the mechanism of understanding and communication between Iraq and the United States, one of the committee members proposed the implementation of the project "Mesopotamia—the Cradle of Civilization" to familiarize the American people with the architectural pieces immortalizing the loftiness of the human civilization of Mesopotamia and showing the pioneering role played by the Iraqi individual in building civilization since ancient times. As part of this project, an exhibition of Iraqi antiquities will be organized in major U.S cities so that the Americans will be given the chance to learn about Iraqi civilization and about the place in which the first civilization in history was born.

His Excellency President Saddam Husayn approved the proposal and all that would facilitate its implementation.

During the meeting, they discussed Iraqi-U.S. relations and ways to develop them in the fields of trade, economic dealings, and the contributions of U.S. firms and institutions in reconstruction projects currently under way in Iraq.

It is worth-recalling that among the members of the Iraqi-U.S. Committee are chairmen and representatives of a number of U.S. firms which contributed to a number of construction and development projects in Iraq in the past.

The meeting was attended by Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, and the U.S. ambassador in Baghdad.

UNIIMOG Commander Arrives in Baghdad 31 May
JN3105190889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1840 GMT 31 May 89

[Text] Baghdad, 31 May (INA)—SFRY General Slavko Jovic, commander of the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group [UNIIMOG], arrived in Baghdad this evening.

Gen Jovic's Baghdad visit comes as part of his continuing shuttle between Baghdad and Tehran to supervise the work of the UN observers in Iraq.

Departs for Tehran 6 Jun
JN0606101589 Baghdad INA in English 0930 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 6, INA—Yugoslav General Slavko Jovic, Commander of the United Nations Iraq-Iran Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) today left Baghdad for Tehran concluding a week-long visit to Iraq.

The general's visit to Iraq comes within his shuttle tours between Baghdad and Tehran to get acquainted with the military observers' work on stabilizing ceasefire between Iraq and Iran.

Air Force Seeks New Fighter Planes From USSR

JN0706162389 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 6 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that Iraq approached the Soviet Union recently with a request for 48 Sukhoi Su-24 long-range fighter planes to form a flight unit consisting of three fighter squadrons within a comprehensive program to rebuild and modernize the Iraqi Air Force. Western military sources told AL-ITTIHAD that Iraq seems to have obtained the Soviet Union's agreement to provide it with these planes which are considered to be among the most important strategic fighter planes in the world at the moment. The sources added that current Iraqi programs to develop its Air Force include obtaining more of the advanced MiG-29 fighter planes. Iraq did actually get 30 of these planes, in addition to 60 Mirage 2000's from France to constitute, along with the MiG-29, the foundation of the Iraqi Air Force deterrent of the future.

Saddam Receives Zambian Finance Minister 6 Jun

JN0606112989 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jun (INA)—President Saddam Husayn received Gibson Chigaga, Zambian minister of finance and development planning, here today.

During the meeting, Chigaga conveyed Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda's greetings to President Saddam Husayn. President Saddam Husayn has also asked the minister to convey his greetings to President Kaunda. The two sides reviewed prospects of technical and trade cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Attending the meeting were Husayn Kamil, minister of industry and military industrialization, and Zambia's ambassador in Cairo, who is also its nonresident ambassador in Baghdad.

Gibson Chigaga heads his country's delegation to the meetings of the third session of the Iraqi-Zambian joint committee, which is currently meeting in Baghdad.

$20 Million Agreement Signed

JN0706173489 Baghdad INA in English 1640 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 7, INA—A 20-million dollar agreement was signed here today between Iraq and Zambia for providing Iraq with Zambian copper during 1989-90 and exchanging expertise and training in fields of medicine, irrigation, planning and oil.

The agreement arose from meetings of the Joint Iraqi-Zambian Committee for Scientific, Technical and Economic Cooperation.

Speaking on the occasion, heads of the two sides Mr. Husayn Kamil, Iraqi minister of industry and military industrialization and Mr. Gibson Chigaga, Zambian minister of finance expressed desire to promote and boost cooperation between the two countries.

Indian Railways Minister Arrives 28 May

JN2805153089 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 May 89

[Text] Indian Railways Minister Madhav Rao Scindia arrived in Baghdad this afternoon heading a delegation on a 4-day visit to Iraq.

In an arrival statement to reporters the Indian minister said he was carrying a message of greeting and appreciation to President Saddam Husayn from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on relations and issues of common interest to the two friendly countries.

In his statement, the Indian minister added that he would seize the opportunity of his visit to Iraq to hold talks with Ministry of Transport and Communications officials on ways to promote bilateral cooperation and the possibility of Indian firms' participation in Iraqi development projects.

He was received at the airport by Muhammad Hamzah, minister of transport and communications; Transport and Communications Ministry officials; and the Indian ambassador in Baghdad.

Meets With Ramadan

JN2905142389 Baghdad INA in English 1355 GMT 29 May 89

[Text] Baghdad, May 29, INA—Revolution Command Council member and first deputy premier, Taha Yasin Ramadan, met here today with Mr. Madhav Rao Scindia the Indian minister of railways.

During the meeting, Mr. Ramadan confirmed Iraq's keenness on developing and extending fields of cooperation with India in different fields, lauding works of the Indian firms in execution of many projects in Iraq during circumstances of the war. He said the Iraqi economy would witness an overall development in conformity to the stage of victory and peace.

The Indian minister affirmed his country's serious desire to move to an advanced level in fields of cooperation with Iraq in different areas.

Confers With Oil Minister

JN2905205189 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 May 89

[Text] 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim, oil minister and head of the Iraqi side in the Iraqi-Indian joint committee, today met with Madhav Rao Scindia, Indian minister of railways, and his delegation. They discussed ways to promote cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Departs Baghdad 1 Jun

JN0106082889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0600 GMT 1 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Jun (INA)—Indian Railways Minister Madhav Rao Scindia left Baghdad today at the conclusion of a 4-day official visit to Iraq.

During the visit, the Indian minister delivered a message to President Saddam Husayn from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on the bilateral relations between the two friendly countries and ways to promote them.

The minister also held talks with officials at the Ministry of Transport and Communications on ways to promote cooperation in the execution of new railway projects, exchange of expertise, and training of personnel.

Paper on Rejection of Reconciliation With Syria

JN0706164489 Baghdad INA in English 1600 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, Jun. 7, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily of Baghdad said Iraq firmly rejected efforts for reconciliation with Syria during the Casablanca Arab summit out of an ethical, principled and realistic understanding of and dealing with Hafiz al-Asad regime over twenty years.

A daily analysis here today said the Iraqi rejection for reconciliation was based on the fact that Iraq was after, instead of a formal reconciliation, a reform of Hafiz al-Asad stances and deviative policy.

It said that frank remarks of President Saddam Husayn during the summit greatly contributed to hammering out the summit's resolution on resolving the Lebanese crisis and setting up the tripartite committee on the level of Arab kings and presidents to seek settlement of the crisis within six months.

The daily said that calculations of Hafiz al-Asad for winning a regional weight were aborted and became impossible when they failed in turning dissidents an alternative to the Palestine Liberation Organization and propagating the Iranian danger and his (Al-Asad) capability to contain and prevent its spread to the Arab Gulf Countries in addition to his failure on bargaining on the return of Egypt to the Arab fold. Al-Asad found no card left for him but the Lebanese one.

AL-THAWRAH stressed that President Husayn summarized the Iraqi outlook towards Al-Asad's policy in a daring and balanced manner.

President Husayn uncovered Al-Asad's claims over his continued present in Lebanon particularly those related [as received] stopping fighting in Lebanon or protecting Lebanon from Israel... With the presence of Syrian forces, fighting escalated in a violent way, and Israel occupied Lebanon twice, the president pointed out.

The president's remarks uncovered the false claims of Al-Asad that his presence in Lebanon would prevent Israel from attacking Damascus from Lebanese territories forgetting that Israel occupies the Golan Heights over the past twenty years.

The analysis referred to the Arab leaders, listening with prominence to President Husayn's remarks viz-a-viz Al-Asad's policy in Lebanon and its dangerous impact on Lebanon's unity and Arab identity.

Most Arab leaders rejected the continued presence of Syrian forces in Lebanon and that there was an inclination at the summit on giving the Syrian regime a last chance after which it would have to choose the formula of withdrawal from Lebanon without row.

U.S. Envoy to UN Denies Broadening PLO Ties

TA0806062789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Jun 89 p 20

[Report by Walter Ruby]

[Excerpts] United Nations—The U.S. ambassador to the UN, Thomas Pickering, yesterday denied that a meeting he held Monday with the PLO representative to the world body, Labib al-Tarazi, represented a broadening of the U.S. dialogue with the Palestinian organization.

Pickering, who is president of the Security Council for the month of June, said in an interview with THE JERUSALEM POST that he met with Al-Tarazi solely in his role as president of the council to discuss an Arab League resolution on the situation in the occupied territories.

Pickering added that he would hold no further meetings with PLO officials after his presidency ends on June 30, and hinted that the U.S. would veto the proposed resolution, stating that in its present form it is "immoderate" and has "shortcomings." [passage omitted]

Pickering made his comments after Al-tarazi told the POST that his meeting with Pickering was "important" and an indication that "the U.S. is now dealing with the observer of Palestine as it does with all other members of the UN."

Noting that "this was the first meeting (between U.S. and PLO representatives) since the late 1970s when Andrew Young paid such a high price for meeting me," Al-Tarazi added that personnel from the U.S. mission to the UN now behave more warmly towards PLO representatives than before.

"Until recently, they wouldn't even say good morning. Now some of them... including Pickering... even speak to us in Arabic." [passage omitted]

Al-tarazi, who said that the U.S. and the PLO had "agreed to a scenario for the present debate in the Security Council," told the POST: "It would be surprising if the U.S. was to veto this resolution. We used almost the same terminology as did the U.S. in its condemnation of vigilantism." [passage omitted]

Israeli sources in Washington confirmed that Israel had been consulted in advance, but said that, while Israel would make no formal protest, it was unhappy about the meeting, just as it opposed the U.S.-PLO dialogue altogether.

Arens Decries U.S.-PLO Contacts

TA0806113989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens by Shalom Qital—live]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Qital] It seems, Minister Arens, that the Israeli Government has been unable to persuade the U.S. Administration to terminate its contacts with the PLO.

[Arens] I hope the Americans themselves will see the need for this. First of all, I presume they are aware of the fact that they are engaged in a dialogue with a terrorist who is directly responsible for what happened here on the border a few days ago. Beyond that, I tried to explain to the Americans—and I hope that ultimately this will prove convincing—that the PLO is the prime obstacle to furthering peace in the region. I also stress that any talks with that organization that imbue it with a sense of legitimacy and bolster its feeling that it is recognized only serve to undermine the peace process.

The Voice of Israel reported the death of a Palestinian in the Gaza [as heard] hospital today. This is a daily occurrence. The PLO is conducting a reign of terror against the Arab population of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District. It is the obstacle to peace and free elections. Therefore, any contacts with it will only present difficulties, not help.

[Qital] Let us concentrate on the Americans for a moment. Judging by words and deeds—and this includes the upcoming meeting [in Tunis]—the impression is that despite the coordination and the deep friendship, Israel and the United States have not been on the same wavelength these past few days. We have heard Vice President Dan Quayle's remark that the settlement drive should be stopped; there were other remarks by Secretary of State Baker; there are these meetings in Tunis. In brief, we do not have complete harmony in bilateral relations.

[Arens] I think that in all fairness, it would be difficult to point to any one time in which we enjoyed complete harmony. We are allies who share a lot of common things, but this is not to say that we always agree on everything. Even today, certainly, there are points of difference. Nevertheless, I believe that the foundation on which our relations rest is very firm. I think that the United States understands very well that we are more interested in peace in the region than in anything else and that peace can only be promoted through our help, not through any other factor.

[Qital] Minister Arens, will elections be held in the territories within 12 months?

[Arens] I do not know. The radio listeners and everyone for that matter should be reminded that the prime minister's peace initiative consists of four points, the fourth of which deals with elections. The other points are all interconnected. If the United States supports our initiative and helps enlist European support for it, and if that support ultimately yields a favorable response in the Arab world—a response we have not yet witnessed, as our initiative was rejected at the Casablanca conference—then presumably all four points will materialize.

[Qital] In that case, two respectable observers will supervise it. The names mentioned in this context are two former U.S. presidents.

[Arens] We have not discussed it at all. Unfortunately, Israel remains the only democracy in the Middle East. No one needs to teach us the rules of democracy. We have held elections here not only once every 4 years, but have also elected local councils and will soon hold elections to the Histadrut, too. We have no need to prove that we know how to hold free, democratic elections. No one has to come here to supervise us.

[Qital] Nonetheless there is great sensitivity to elections in the territories, certainly more than to elections to the Histadrut.

[Arens] That is true, Shalom, but you realize that even the Americans know very well that if the degree of freedom given to the voters is in any jeopardy, this is because of the PLO, not Israel. The PLO has been trying to use terror against the local population.

[Qital] One last issue, Mr Foreign Minister. Next week you will host an honorable guest, Butrus Ghali.

[Arens] Correct.

[Qital] How does this fit in with the other political moves?

[Arens] Egypt could play a highly significant, unique role in promoting peace. This is especially true with respect to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. I told him that during our meeting in Cairo. There is no doubt in my mind that President Mubarak is trying to do his best to promote the peace process. Butrus Ghali's visit constitutes part of Mubarak's effort and assistance. We will be happy to welcome him here. We would like visits by Egyptian ministers in Israel and vice versa to become a matter of routine, not something special. At this stage, however, this is a special visit.

[Qital] Thank you very much, Mr Foreign Minister, and a happy holiday to you.

[Arens] Happy holiday.

[Qital] Thank you.

U.S. Sees 'Uprising' Heating Up in Summer

TA0706171489 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Jun 89 pp A1, 2

[Report by Ilan Bakhar]

[Text] In official contacts held over the last few days between top U.S. Administration intelligence officials and senior Israeli political figures, the Americans expressed their view that the uprising will be stepped up around summertime. It is already gaining momentum and will likely become more violent and lethal.

The U.S. intelligence officials explained that the violence in the territories has been increasing also in areas that had heretofore been relatively quiet. They noted that the Palestinians' efforts to obtain firearms have increased. As far as they know, 'Arafat has not changed the instructions to his men in the territories not to use firearms.

The United States believes that the PLO is amenable to the idea of elections in the territories and that its conditions for holding elections will be more flexible than the statements made by the organization's leaders. They claim that the PLO will demand that the Israel Defense Forces stay away from the areas in which voting will be held and that observers—though not necessarily UN observers—will oversee the process.

The U.S. Administration's assessment is that the PLO's attitude toward Israel has undergone a substantial change and that it in fact realizes now that it is not enough to engage in a dialogue with the United States but it is also necessary to talk to Israel.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said yesterday in the Galilee panhandle: "U.S.-PLO contacts merely serve to bolster the terrorists' motivation to pursue terrorism. Terrorism from Lebanon and the continuation of the uprising in the territories are interconnected."

Netanyahu Offers USSR Aid After Train Disaster

TA0706185889 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Today, Israel offered the Soviet Union assistance for the victims of the train disaster in the Urals. Our political correspondent Yig'al Goren reports that in view of reports on the large number of casualties suffering from burns in this catastrophe, Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu today summoned the head of the Soviet delegation in Israel, offering assistance. The latter gratefully accepted Israel's proposal and will soon submit the USSR's list of requirements.

IDF Medical Team Leaves for USSR

TA0806175089 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] medical team left Israel this afternoon for the USSR to treat casualties of the train accident which occurred there this week.

Our correspondent Beni Lis reports that the delegation is composed of six doctors specializing in surgery, plastic surgery, and kidney problems, as well as one nurse. The delegation is headed by the IDF deputy chief medical officer. The team's departure was coordinated between the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem and the Soviet consular delegation in Israel.

Soviets Propose Cooperation in Agriculture

TA0706111089 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Jun 89 p 5

[Report by David Mosheyof]

[Excerpt] The Russians are interested in developing commercial and agricultural relations with Israel. A Soviet official approached Israel with a proposal for cooperation in the field of veterinary research.

Prof Georgiy Koromislov, director of the Soviet Veterinarian Institute [name and title as published], approached Dr Arnon Shimshoni, director of Israel's Veterinary Services, with a proposal to coproduce a vaccine against theileriasis (a severe parasitical blood disease attacking cattle herds). In their contacts with the Israelis, the Soviet officials have more than hinted at their desire to cooperate in the agricultural sphere. Soviet officials dealing with agricultural matters have raised the issue with the Israeli vice prime minister through intermediary companies which want to purchase Israeli agricultural know-how.

These details are revealed in the recently-published May edition of HASADE, a monthly magazine on settlement and agricultural affairs. [passage omitted]

Businessman Leave for USSR Economists' Meeting

TA0606142189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Moshe Zanbar, the chairman of Bank Leumi's Board of Directors, and Dani Gillerman, the President of the Chamber of Commerce, left for Moscow today to participate in an international conference of economists under the auspices of the USSR Chamber of Commerce.

Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that among those participating in the meeting will be Soviet leader Gorbachev, former FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, and other leading personalities from the East and West.

Shamir on Peace Initiative, European Role

PM0706153189 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 1 Jun 89 p 16

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by group of Spanish journalists from dispatch from Maria Dolores Masana in Jerusalem; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Interviewer] If you do not secure Likud's support for your peace plan, will you tender your resignation?

[Shamir] That is pure speculation. I believe that I will have my party's support. My proposal has already been accepted by the national unity government with a majority of eight over three Likud ministers. It is not worthwhile to turn this proposal into a subject of debate within Israeli society. Moreover, if it has not met with an affirmative Arab response, why begin an intense debate within Likud? But if the party's Central Committee wishes to discuss it, I will not object.

[Interviewer] What is your opinion of the resolutions adopted at the recent Casablanca summit?

[Shamir] Its decisions are completely negative from our viewpoint. They did not accept our peace initiative. On the contrary, they accepted the Syrian line of maintaining a strategic balance with Israel, which means preparing for a war against us. This is the first time that an Arab summit has accepted this principle. It was an exchange operation with Syria, a trade-off, to offset Syria's acceptance of support for the PLO and 'Arafat's moderate line—something very common in the Arab world.

[Interviewer] But they also accepted UN Resolution 242.

[Shamir] The Arab summit did not explicitly say that it recognized the State of Israel. They agreed on the need to achieve a strategic balance. That is Syria's line. It is Al-Asad's personal idea. When Al-Asad says that the Arab world must achieve a strategic balance with Israel, he means that the Arab world must reach a situation in which it deems itself able to launch a war against our country. Al-Asad has said: "At present we are not ready to defeat Israel militarily, so let us prepare ourselves." No diplomacy, nothing to do with seeking peace with Israel.

[Interviewer] Do you believe that Syria could launch a war against Israel within a certain space of time?

[Shamir] You must ask Al-Asad that, obviously.

[Interviewer] What conditions should exist for holding elections in the occupied territories?

[Shamir] They are very clear. First, let the intifadah end, and then they will be able to elect the Palestinian representatives. They have no other course. That is the Palestinian people's great dilemma—either to end the intifadah or to negotiate with Israel [as published].

[Interviewer] On what specific ideas could the valid interlocutors emerging from those elections negotiate with Israel?

[Shamir] There are three phases or stages: First, the terms for Palestinian autonomy over 5 years would be negotiated; second, these Palestinian representatives would run that autonomy during those 5 years; third, the Palestinian representatives would also be in charge of negotiating a permanent solution. But this is always with the proviso that they must carry out these three stages without choosing other, alternative courses.

[Interviewer] With respect to the problems of the Israeli settlers who clash on their own account with the Palestinians, have you considered adopting any specific measure?

[Shamir] There is no problem. These are sporadic outbreaks that I believe will pass. Our position has always been that it is the army that deals with security matters.

[Interviewer] What about the possibility of accepting observers in the electoral process in the occupied territories?

[Shamir] Only after the Arabs accept our proposals will we be prepared to discuss this—never before.

[Interviewer] Would you accept under certain conditions the possibility of an independent Palestinian state?

[Shamir] We are opposed to that. It is the reason why we do not negotiate with the PLO.

Security Strip

[Interviewer] What chances are there of Israel's withdrawing from southern Lebanon?

[Shamir] We are not interested in maintaining our presence there. It is a matter of security. Do not forget that there have been many infiltrations by commandos from southern Lebanon—attacks with rockets when it was under the international peacekeeping forces' control. The Israeli army is there in the security strip solely in order to protect our borders.

[Interviewer] What were your impressions with respect to possible mediation by Spain to assist the peace process in the Arab-Israeli conflict following your recent meeting with Felipe Gonzalez?

[Shamir] As a country forming part of the EC's presidential troika [tripartite committee comprising Spain, Greece, and France], Spain could persuade the EC to conduct a policy of cooperation in the peace process, and persuade the Arabs, too, to accept the Israeli proposal. But I have already specifically asked this of the Spanish head of government. We discussed all the possibilities, but Felipe Gonzalez is very cautious. He would never make a proposal if he were not certain that it would be accepted.

FRG Social Democrats' Stand on PLO Criticized

TA0806053489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] In West Germany, the Social Democratic Party has recognized the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. The party called on the Bonn government to initiate contacts with the PLO, in order to strengthen the organization's status in West Germany.

The Israeli Embassy in Bonn said in reaction that while it does not doubt the Social Democrats are concerned with the peace process in the Middle East, recognition of the PLO is not the way to further it. The Israeli ambassador will meet with the chairman of the Social Democratic Party next week to express Israel's disappointment with the party's decision.

Concerns Over Syrian Role in Lebanon Viewed

TA0406170289 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Jun 89 p 9

[Commentary by Dan Sagir: "Conditional Quiet"]

[Text] When asked at the beginning of April for his reaction to the renewed fighting between Syria, its allies, and the Christians in Beirut, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin responded by saying that "as far as we are concerned, Syria can go on sinking into the Lebanese quagmire right up to its neck."

This expletive by Rabin, which was probably just a slip of the tongue without any analytical thought behind it, actually exposed Israel's real policy regarding the war of the religious communities in Lebanon, and the Syrian involvement in the fighting. As far as Israel is concerned, Syria has free reign to use as much military force as it wants or is capable of against the Christians in Beirut, keeping the international and Arab world constraints in mind. Israel will not interfere as long as there is no increase in the forces operating in al-Biqa' and the areas adjoining Israel's security zone in southern Lebanon.

Indeed, Israel had maintained an official silence during the 3 months which passed after the Christian leader, Michel 'Awn, challenged the Syrian presence in his country, and began pushing the Muslim militias into a corner amid a continuous exacerbation of the free-for-all in Beirut.

All this was true until the end of last week. As a result of a planned leak, the media, true to the Israeli tradition of hysteria, with the local decisionmakers right on their

heels, expressed "deep concern" over the changed Syrian deployment in Lebanon. The original source of these reports, which were mostly untrue, was probably Christian circles in Lebanon.

It is estimated that the Christians' purpose was to pressure Syria on the last day of the Arab League summit in Casablanca, and to help the initiative launched by Mubarak and the Iraqis calling for a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon.

When Yitzhaq Rabin returned from the United States last week he was more prudent. Rabin said: "We are obligated to remain alert, but no more than that." The current developments in Lebanon are indeed keenly monitored in Israel with great interest, but no more than that.

It is doubtful that anyone today would deny, following the painful and traumatic experience of 1982-1985, that Israel should refrain from getting physically involved in the religious ethnic war in Lebanon. There are, however, those in the defense establishment who feel that it would be a mistake on Israel's part to publicly dissociate itself from all that is taking place in Beirut and northern Lebanon.

The political and security interests of Israel in Lebanon, in all issues regarding the Syrian involvement in Lebanon since 1976, revolve around two major elements. The first element is the effect maintaining an army in Lebanon has on Syrian considerations regarding a war with Israel. The second element is the influence events in Lebanon have on the security situation in the southern part of the country, in the area under Israeli control.

On the first point, the prevailing assumption in Israel is that the Syrian maintenance in Lebanon of approximately two divisions, or some 40,000 troops, limits and tones down Damascus' war plans against Israel. This approach was reflected in Rabin's remark that Israel's interest is that the Syrians keep sinking in the Lebanese quagmire. The deployment and size of the troops the Syrians have been keeping in Lebanon in the last few years are not perceived as a direct threat to Israel. In the event of an all-out war, the two armies would deploy along a single, long battlefront anyway, including the Golan Heights and al-Biqa'.

The second element of the Syrian presence in Lebanon pertains to their role in the ethnic war. The question is what Israel's interest in this issue is, and how it should be promoted.

Events in Beirut have a direct impact on the rest of war-torn Lebanon, including an area of importance to Israel: southern Lebanon and the security zone. Over the short term, up until a few days ago, Israel experienced fewer terrorist attacks by Palestinian organizations receiving assistance from Lebanese Shi'ite groups. This quiet should be attributed more to the fact that Syria and the terror organizations had been devoting their attention, and the lion's share of their resources, to the events in Beirut, rather than to the cease-fire declared by 'Arafat.

Notwithstanding the temporary and elusive nature of the quiet, as evident in the Katyusha attack and the attempted terrorist infiltration in Metulla last week, Israel's position must bear the ethnic and religious make-up of Lebanon in mind and maintain relations with most rival groups in that country. In the last few years, Israel has abstained from publicly stating its support for the Christians. In contrast, pertinent elements feel that Israel should not give the impression that it is totally indifferent to the fate of the Christians' initiative and their struggle against the Syrians. The Lebanese might have gleaned just such an impression from Rabin's statement at the beginning of April.

Along with being sensitive to the plight of the Christians in Beirut, Israel should take the demographic situation in the security zone, and the fact that most of its inhabitants are Shi'ite Muslims, into account. Israel's main objective should be to maintain peace and a normal life in the areas under its control to the best of its ability. The gist of Israel's message should be that the security zone in southern Lebanon can be a model of coexistence among all ethnic groups in Lebanon.

According to assessments, Israel would not embark on a war against Syria if al-Asad occupied East Beirut and deposed Michel 'Awn. The red lines policy of the mid-1970's and early 1980's, and the subsequent direct control of areas deep in Lebanese territory, have been replaced with the safeguarding of the areas adjacent to the northern border.

Nevertheless, the Syrians are aware of the unwritten (mainly geographic) red lines in Lebanon they too should not cross as far as Israel is concerned.

Arens Notes Support for Democracy in China

TA0806104789 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Jun 89 p A3

[Report by Ilan Bakhar]

[Text] "Israel encourages any process that promotes democracy in the world, including China," Foreign Minister Moshe Arens stated on Tuesday, in a first comment by an Israeli official on recent events in China.

Minister Arens made these remarks in a speech to 500 Jewish academics from the United States. Minister Arens noted that "Israel is a member of the community of democratic countries which believe in democratic values, and that is also why we encourage any process that promotes democracy in China."

Edri Back From Morocco, To Brief Peres, Shamir
TA0406092689 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 4 Jun 89 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yohanan Lahav]

[Text] Minister Rafi Edri returned yesterday evening from a visit to Morocco.

Edri, who is a minister without portfolio, was in Morocco at the same time the Arab League summit was being held in Casablanca.

Before his departure, Edri had sent a cable to Hasan II, the king of Morocco, in which he had requested the king's aid in furthering the peace process between Israel and the Arab world.

This morning Edri will brief Prime Minister Shamir and Vice Prime Minister Peres on the meetings he held in Morocco.

When Peres was Prime Minister, Edri played a key role in organizing Peres' meeting with the king in Morocco.

Settlement Council Gives Shamir 'Full Support'
TA0806103389 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Jun 89 p A1

[Report by Nadav Shragay]

[Text] There was a big surprise in yesterday's vote on the Shamir-Rabin initiative taken by members of the Likud Central Committee residing in the settlements. The Likud's Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza Council, which includes 105 Central Committee members, yesterday voiced its "full support for Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and his political efforts to lead the Israeli people to a safe haven." With a majority of 40 votes in favor and 4 votes against, the Council rejected the proposal of Hayim Morad, a Central Committee member and a resident of Nili in Samaria, to categorically reject the initiative.

The Council also rejected a proposal to put off a decision until after the matter has been clarified in a meeting with the prime minister.

The resolution adopted by the Council is a compromise between two proposals—one by Rafi Ben-Hur from Ma'ale Edummim and another by Mark Asia from Bet Arye—and actually implies acceptance in principle of the government's political initiative on certain conditions: 1. Likud Central Committee members residing in the territories express their full support for the prime minister and his political efforts to lead Israel to a safe haven; 2. The Likud's Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza Council takes a severe view of the Israeli Government's hesitancy and helplessness in quelling the intifadah [uprising]; 3. The Council urges Shamir not to launch any phase of his political plan before the intifadah has been crushed through military means; 4. The Council demands a resumption of the settlement drive and urges the government to show its determination by means of practical steps in the field; 5. The Council rules that any political initiative should be based on the principle of the integrity of Eretz Yisra'el.

The HA'ARETZ correspondent points out that the Council's decision could have a decisive effect on the vote of many Likud Central Committee members, because of the fact that the voters are inhabitants of the settlements.

Center-Shinuy Movement Disbands
TA0806063289 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Jun 89 p 20

[Report by Dan Petreanu]

[Text] Shinuy yesterday disbanded the three-year-old Centre Movement, in reaction to the decision two weeks ago by its partner in the union, the Independent Liberal Party, to run with Labour in the Histadrut elections. Shinuy charged that the decision "emptied the partnership of meaning."

Bethlehem Mayor Expects Elections in '1 Year'
TA0706133389 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 7 Jun 89 pp 12, 13, 44

["Special" interview with Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj by 'Anat Saragosti on 3 June at Frayj's office]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Saragosti] What do you think of the fact that many Knesset members say you are their first choice as a Palestinian representative, if and when elections are held in the territories?

[Frayj] That is good. The question is whether they mean to hold real elections or appoint people. Nothing is known about the election plan at the moment. It is easy to talk about free and democratic elections, but what do they mean by that? That there will be hundreds of soldiers in the city, on the rooftops, and in the streets?

[Saragosti] But, do you see yourself as a leader?

[Frayj] A leader must be elected.

[Saragosti] You were elected.

[Frayj] I was elected to the city council for the first time in 1954, and later in 1963. In 1973, and later in 1976, I was elected mayor. Thank God, I have never lost an election.

[Saragosti] Do you intend to run again when elections are held?

[Frayj] Yes, for the municipality.

[Saragosti] And other than that?

[Frayj] I do not know. The election plan must be approved first, and it must be agreed that the elections would be free and democratic, and held under international supervision or in the presence of international observers. We want the Israeli Government to detail the plan. People here will not buy a vague election plan. Shamir says, "We will not give even one inch back." So, why hold elections?

[Saragosti] Suppose all this is clarified and accepted by both sides. Will you be a candidate?

[Frayj] I will not answer that question until I see that everything has been settled. I have been talking about peaceful coexistence for 17 years, from the moment I was elected mayor. I have always said that Israel's right to exist on the basis of UN Resolutions 242 and 338 must be recognized. I want peace in this land; I want Jews and Arabs to be able to coexist as equal neighbors. [passage omitted]

[Saragosti] What would you suggest to the Palestinians?

[Frayj] That they accept the principle of free and democratic elections.

[Saragosti] Do you think that is possible?

[Frayj] Where there is a will there is a way. I am not optimistic, I have my doubts. The Arabs and the PLO do not object to elections, and I do not tell people to oppose free and democratic elections either. There will be no elections, however, without the PLO's support, the participation of the inhabitants of East Jerusalem, or without international supervision.

[Saragosti] And what will happen when elections are held?

[Frayj] We only have one bylaw dealing with elections, and a Jordanian law at that, which does not apply. We need new procedures for political, not municipal, elections. So, who will stipulate those procedures? We must participate in that decision. Which one of us will do that? At the moment, there is no local leadership.

[Saragosti] What do you mean?

[Frayj] Who will step forward and tell the Israeli Government: "I am your partner to negotiations?"

[Saragosti] Why not?

[Frayj] Nobody has been elected.

[Saragosti] Does the intifadah [uprising] not have a leadership?

[Frayj] It does, but if they were to come out and say that they are the leaders they would be arrested at once. Look what they are doing to Sari Nusaybah. Why did they arrest Ghassan al-Khatib just before his meeting with Dennis Ross? That was a warning.

[Saragosti] Against what?

[Frayj] It was as if they were telling him: "We are the rulers; we determine your fate." That was a warning.

[Saragosti] Have you ever been arrested?

[Frayj] No, because I am the only person who has been talking about attaining coexistence during the last 18 years.

[Saragosti] Do you support the intifadah?

[Frayj] Certainly, because it is a protest. I do not support the killing or use of firearms. I am against bloodletting on both sides. [passage omitted]

[Saragosti] Are you optimistic about the future?

[Frayj] I am realistic.

[Saragosti] As a realistic man, what do you think will happen?

[Frayj] Free and democratic elections will be held 1 year from today.

[Saragosti] And afterward?

[Frayj] That will be the first step in the peace process.

[Saragosti] Do you think the Likud will eventually stomach a Palestinian state?

[Frayj] Israel is a sophisticated military superpower. It has a strong Air Force, a well-equipped and trained army, and a strategic pact with the United States. So, how can a small Palestinian state pose a threat to Israel? [passage omitted]

Poll Shows 'Majority' Denounces Settlers' Rioting

TA0806104389 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 8 Jun 89 p A1

[Text] A vast majority of the public (73 percent) denounces the rioting by settlers, a majority of 58 percent fears that an exacerbation of the internal argument could lead to fratricide, while a similar majority of 53 percent is opposed to dismantling the settlements, even if this is a prerequisite for the implementation of a political solution. These are the findings emerging from a public opinion poll conducted by the Dahaf Institute, under the direction of Dr Mina Tzemah, on Sunday,

Monday, and Tuesday of this week. The poll was conducted through personal interviews with 579 respondents, according to a representative sample.

Question: Do you justify or denounce the actions of extremist settlers who carried out violent vendettas against Arab villages and individuals?

Answer: justify—26 percent; denounce—73 percent.

Question: Could the exacerbation of the internal argument lead to fratricide?

Answer: yes—58 percent; no—40 percent.

Question: Are you for or against dismantling the settlements, if this is a prerequisite for the implementation of a political solution?

Answer: for—42 percent; against—53 percent.

Question: Do the Israeli army and police deal with the rioting by Jews against Arabs too lightly, too severely, or just right?

Answer: too lightly—23 percent; too severely—21 percent; just right—50 percent.

Galilee Farmers Selling Land to Arabs

TA0406092089 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Jun 89 p 8

[Text] Kefar Tavor—Jewish farmers in the North have lately sold hundreds of dunams of farmland to Arabs in order to overcome acute financial problems. This phenomenon has been especially prevalent in the private moshavot, such as Kefar Tavor, Yavne'el, Binyamina, Giv'at 'Ada and Migdal. MK [Knesset Member] Micha Goldman of this moshava said yesterday that he had learned that the Arab buyers had often paid double the market value of the land.

Further on Incidents, Casualties in Territories

8 Reported Injured 7 Jun

TA0706164789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] At least eight residents of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza were hurt in clashes with soldiers today. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that three of them were hurt in the village of Bayta in Samaria, and another in the village of 'Imatin near Qalqilyah.

Gaza residents claim that a 19-year-old Jabalyah youth was injured and evacuated to Israel for medical treatment. Two other casualties were reported in al-Shati' refugee camp.

Masked youths beat up two Qalqilyah women, a mother and her daughter, on suspicion of collaborating with Israel.

Fatah Squad Found in Jabalyah

TA0806043389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] The security forces have uncovered a squad belonging to the Fatah popular committee in the Jabalyah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. Our military affairs Karmela Menashe reports that the squad members are suspected of having thrown several Molotov cocktails at IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrols about 2 months ago. They are also suspected of threatening Gaza Strip residents working in Israel, setting up roadblocks, and burning tires. The IDF has sealed the homes of three of the squad members.

Firebomb Damages Bus

TA0806052989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Another attack has taken place on a bus traveling to Jericho: A Molotov cocktail was hurled last night, causing slight damage to the bus, but there were no injuries.

A train traveling from Tel Aviv to Haifa was hit by stones while passing Hadera. One passenger was injured when a stone hit his head, and he was taken to a hospital.

Suspected Collaborator Killed

TA0806100189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Talib Yamin, 55, was murdered in Rafidiyah Hospital in Nabulus this morning. Two unknown persons entered the hospital and fired several pistol shots at his head. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that last night, Yamin was brought to the hospital with a head injury inflicted by a stone.

Near the police station in Nabulus several gunshots were fired last night at Sayil Sawalihi, 48, from the village of 'Asirah al-Shamaliyah. The man was badly wounded in the head and was flown by helicopter to a hospital in Israel.

Nabulus residents have said that the two wounded men had been suspected of aiding the authorities. Our correspondent notes that yesterday an Arab resident of Nabulus was found hanging from an electricity pole.

The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] declared Nabulus a closed military area.

Government Exceeds 1989-90 State Budget

TA0806063089 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Jun 89 p 16

[Report by economic correspondent Avi Temkin]

[Text] Government expenditure has swollen by NIS [new Israeli shekels] 600 million over and above the spending planned in the state budget for 1989/90, according to Bank of Israel estimates. Updated figures also show that real wages were eroded by more than 7 percent in the first months of the year.

Bank of Israel officials are convinced that unless the government takes action soon to slash at least this NIS 600m. Over-expenditure, the government deficit could reach critical proportions. They have also warned that the budget tightening needed could be much larger if the government decided to allocate more money for the defence and absorption ministries. The officials did not rule out a NIS 1 billion cut under such conditions.

But they did rule out a devaluation of the shekel in the near future. They stressed that there is no need for such a step, given the marked erosion in real wages. The latest figures available to the bank showed that in the first two months of the year, following the shekel's 13 pecent devaluation, salaries dropped 7 percent in real terms. The officials added that it was probable that wage erosion had only increased since then, but there were still no accurate figures.

The NIS 600m. increase in government expenditure over and above budgetary target included:—NIS 220m. added by the Knesset. This item includes the money to party institutions; allocations for settlements in the West Bank as called for in the coalition agreements; allocations for religious institutions; and funding for the political parties themselves.—NIS 160m. to finance the rescue plan for the kibbutzim.—NIS 90m. for Koor [Histadrut holding company] to finance part of its recovery plan.—NIS 60m. for "investment incentive" programmes favoured by Finance Minister Peres, such as grants for investments in non-development areas, larger research and development grants and accelerated amortization.—NIS 40m. to finance Peres's promises to the Histadrut in February. In return, the Labour Federation agreed to waive part of the cost-of living allowance due to salaried employees.

Bank of Israel Governor Mikha'el Bruno yesterday told the Knesset finance committee that any improvement in economic activity achieved through larger spending would be short-lived. The central bank head said that the recession was not caused by a lack of demand, but mainly because business sector profitability had been eroded by high wages and high debt.

Economic Recession Causes Drop in Tax Revenues

TA0506100789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Jun 89 p 8

[Report by economic affairs correspondent Avi Temkin]

[Excerpt] State revenue from taxes slumped in the last two months, as the economic recession began to have an impact on tax collection.

Figures released yesterday by the Treasury showed that last month, the government's tax revenue totalled NIS [new Israeli shekels] 2.2 billion, 6 percent less in real terms than in May 1988. The ministry said that in the first two months of the fiscal year, tax revenue was 8 percent lower than in the same period last year.

Treasury officials have already expressed concern with a possible increase in the budget deficit if the current slowdown in revenue continues. But they said it was too early to judge whether this was only a temporary drop, or whether a trend would develop.

Economic observers said yesterday that the figures for Value Added Tax [VAT] and for customs revenue indicated that in May there had been an apparent recovery in activity, but warned that the income tax collection figures did not show signs of improvement.

Value Added Tax collection rose last month by 5 percent over the figure for May 1988. The Treasury said that VAT revenue for April registered a 7 percent dive. Therefore, the cumulative revenue for April and May showed no change from the same period last year. VAT collection is based on turnover and therefore could serve as an indicator of the pace of economic activity.

But income tax collection for May, which totalled NIS 1.1m., was 8 percent lower than in May 1988. The Treasury conceded this was caused by the slowdown in activity.

Revenue from customs duties in May was 26 percent lower than in May last year. This was partly the result of the slump in imports of durables in recent months, but also reflected cuts in duties and tariffs implemented since January 1989. [passage omitted]

Signs of Recovery in Incoming Tourism

TA0506070689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] There are signs of a recovery in tourism to Israel; 96,000 tourists arrived by air to Israel in May. That represents a 34-percent increase over the same period last year and is even higher than the corresponding figure in 1987, which was a record year for tourism. Figures were released yesterday at a ceremony for outstanding people in the tourism industry.

Territories' Unemployment Rate Rated Very Low

TA0706104289 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 7 Jun 89 p 1

[Report by economic correspondent in Jerusalem]

[Text] The number of Arabs from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza currently employed in Israel is estimated at 100,000.

According to David Mena', director general of the Employment Service, the civilian work force in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza is estimated at 270,000 men.

According to him, the unemployment rate in those areas is one of the lowest in the world, not exceeding 2.8 percent. By contrast, the unemployment rate in Israel already exceeds 8.2 percent. David Mena' added that over 60 percent of the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza employed in Israel are not registered with the Employment Service. In the agriculture and construction business, the number of unregistered employees is 45 percent.

It has been reported that employment authorities in Israel intend to stiffen the criteria and increase the supervision of employment in Israel of Arabs from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza.

FRG To Build 2 Submarines for Navy

TA0406094889 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 4 Jun 89 p 2

[Report by Alex Fishman]
[Text] Last week the Defense Ministry and the Cologne Shipyard signed a contract saying that the latter would build two submarines for the Israeli Navy.

Some 2 months ago, the general staff issued instructions which, in fact, froze the building of the submarines for lack of budget. The Navy was only authorized to purchase three Sahar-5 missile boats that will be built in the United States. Senior military sources noted then that if the required budget were found, the submarines would be purchased in the FRG as planned. After assessing the situation, the Germans agreed to a series of conditions presented by the Defense Ministry and the Navy delegation. Among other things, they agreed to reduce the project's price by several dozen millions of dollars. At the same time, rumors spread in the Western media alleging that Israel is planning to purchase submarines from Argentina through a barter deal in which Argentina would receive Israeli Kfirs.

In the contract that was signed last week, the Defense Ministry introduced a condition that the deal will only be carried out if the ministry gets the necessary budget allocation from the government. The chief of staff filed a request 2 weeks ago to increase the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] budget by 400 million shekels.

[Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew, in a report by Shmu'el Tal on the same date and page adds: "a delegation of the Argentine Defense Ministry will arrive in Israel after the Paris Air Show ends. It would bring with it the Argentine Pampa trainer aircraft." "The idea of selling these planes first came up when the Argentine defense minister visited Israel some 2 months ago. Argentina wanted a barter deal in which it would sell the aircraft to Israel, provide it with four German submarines, and in exchange would get old aircraft from the Israeli Air Force. Defense establishment sources have said that this deal will probably fall through. Israel, however, would not mind examining the Argentine Pampa trainer aircraft."]

Police Detain 21 Drug Dealers

TA0306110389

[Editorial Report] Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0800 GMT on 2 June 1989 reports that "police detained 21 drug dealers, some of them major dealers in western Galilee." The report said the police had been after the dealers for a long time, but only recently were able to gather enough evidence with the help of an undercover agent to round them up.

Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1000 GMT on 31 May reports that "over 0.5 kg of heroin was seized today when a drug gang was busted in Al-Taiyiba, following a stakeout by police detectives in the Sharon District. Two people, believed to be among the largest drug dealers in the Triangle, were arrested. The police also arrested four inhabitants of Al-Taiyiba and a woman from Hadar Yosef, the girlfriend of one of them. The police believe further arrests will be made."

IDF Sergeant Convicted of Drug Charges

TA0706131689 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Jun 89 p 5

[Report by Zohar Eisenberg]

[Excerpt] The Northern Command's military court yesterday convicted a sergeant, who served as a driver in Lebanon, on a long series of charges, including heroin dealing, supplying drugs to his friends in the Lebanese front who held drug parties, drug smuggling, and use of drugs.

The court presided by Colonel Nili Peled sentenced Yirmiyahu Ya'qobi to 10 years imprisonment, of which he will serve 6 years in jail, and demotion to the rank of private. [passage omitted]

King Visits Al-Balqa', Inaugurates Plants

JN0606200789 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] His majesty the king visited al-Balqa' Governorate today. Residents of the city of al-Salt and al-Balqa' Governorate flocked to welcome his majesty with expressions of joy and affection.

His majesty met officials of the governorate and representatives of popular organizations and institutions. The chairman of the Board of Trustees of al-Salt Development Corporation, Mr Ja'far al-Shami, made a speech welcoming his majesty. Mr al-Shami noted that his majesty is making tireless efforts for the good of the country and the welfare of the countrymen. Mr al-Shami thanked his majesty for his constant support of al-Salt Development Corporation, noting that this support has been instrumental in the success of the corporation's projects.

Other speakers from al-Balqa' Governorate pointed to the remarkable achievements accomplished by Jordan thanks to the vision and wisdom of his majesty and pledged loyalty to the king's sincere and dedicated leadership. His majesty bestowed Al-Kawkab Medal, First Order, on Mr 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Atiqi, counselor at the office of the amir of Kuwait, in appreciation of his efforts and contribution to the success of al-Salt Development Corporation's projects. Mr al-'Atiqi paid tribute to his majesty's sincere efforts on the Arab and international levels noting that these efforts contributed significantly to the unity of Arab ranks. He said Kuwait's support of al-Salt Development Corporation and its projects is a manifestation of Arab fraternity and sincere cooperation between the two brotherly Arab countries. His majesty also bestowed Al-Kawkab Medal, First Order, on al-Salt Development Corporation.

Earlier, his majesty inaugurated al-Salt Cultural Center and toured its sections. His majesty then opened the pharmaceutical plant of the Arab Company of Medicinal Industries in al-Salt area. Mr Amin Shuqayr, the chairman of the company's board of directors, made a speech at the opening ceremony thanking his majesty for his constant support of the medicinal industry in Jordan. He said Jordan's drug industry had become an important sector enriching Jordan's economy and is known for the good quality of its products in the Arab countries. His majesty then toured the various sections of the new plant.

His majesty was accompanied on the visit to al-Balqa' Governorate by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Court, his majesty's political adviser, the chief chamberlain, his majesty's private secretary, several ministers, and senior officials.

Iraqi Transport Minister Arrives 6 Jun

JN0606115389 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi, Iraqi minister of transport and communications and His Excellency President Saddam Husayn's envoy to his brother, His Majesty King Husayn, arrived in Amman from Cairo today as part of his tour of the capitals of the Arab Cooperation Council's member states. In a statement at the airport, Hamzah said that he was carrying a message to His Majesty King Husayn from his brother, His Excellency President Saddam Husayn, on the distinguished brotherly relations betweeen the two countries.

Hamzah added that the message invites a representative of his majesty the king to attend the great celebrations to he held on 25 June on the occasion of laying the cornerstone for the reconstruction of the city of al-Faw, the city of sacrifice and great victory. He pointed out that stones will be sent from fraternal Jordan to be placed in the foundation and walls of the city in commemoration of the Arabs' role in building it.

Hamzah said that during his visit to Jordan, he will participate in the meetings of the general assembly of the Iraqi-Jordanian Overland Transport Company, which will begin work in Amman tomorrow, as well as in the meetings of the Arab Bridge Shipping Company, which will begin work in Amman the day after tomorrow, Thursday. The Iraqi minister expressed hope that the meetings will adopt new resolutions to support the activity of the two companies in the service of the three fraternal countries, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt, as well as the entire Arab nation. He was received at the airport by Transportation and Communications Minister Hikmat Khammash and the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Amman. Hamzah had conveyed a similar message to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

Meets Crown Prince 7 Jun

JN0706174189 Baghdad INA in English 1400 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Amman, June 7, INA—Jordanian Crown Prince Emir Hasan today met here with Iraqi Communications and Transport Minister Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi currently visiting Jordan.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the existing developed relations between Iraq and Jordan and means of enhancing bilateral cooperation in the fields of communications and transport.

In a press statement here today, the Iraqi minister described the relations as typical and continously developing thanks to wise policies of President Saddam Husayn and Jordanian King Husayn.

He said his visit came as part of a tour covering the Arab Cooperation Council's member states during which he delivered messages from President Husayn to their leaders containing invitation to send their representatives to take part in the festivals of laying down the foundation stone of reconstructing the southern Iraqi al-Faw town due on June 25.

Mr. Hamzah added that a plan drawn up by President Husayn had been completely fulfilled concerning rebuilding the southern Iraqi city of Basra within three months.

He pointed out that Iraq was already preparing to utilize the capabilities and know-how of the experiences of reconstructing Basra in rebuilding al-Faw.

It is mentioned that the Iraqi minister arrived here yesterday on a several-day visit to Jordan.

Joint Venture Body Meets

JN0706163489 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Amman—Meetings of the general assembly of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company began in Amman today under Eng Hikmat al-Khammash, minister of transportation and communications; and Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi, Iraqi minister of transport and communications. Members of the general assembly from both sides attended the meeting. [passage omitted]

The general assembly approved the company's 1988 general budget, which shows net profits amounting to 2 million Jordanian dinars. The company discussed the finanical and production report of the company's general manager.

Prime Minister Receives Egyptian Official

JN0706115489 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The prime minister, Al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir, today received a message from his Egyptian counterpart, Dr 'Atif Sidqi. The message dealt with arrangements for the meetings of the leaders of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] scheduled to be held in Alexandria in the middle of this month.

The letter was delivered to Al-Sharif Zayd by the director of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry's Department of International Agencies, who is currently visiting Jordan. The meeting was attended by the candidate to the post of the ACC secretary general, Mr Muhammad Hilmi Nimr, and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

Prime Minister Receives Egyptian Minister

JN0706185889 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] His Excellency Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir received at his office this evening Eng Sulayman Mutawalli, Egyptian minister of land transportation and communications. Eng Hikmat al-Khammash, Jordanian transportation and communications minister, attended the meeting.

The conferees discussed cooperation between the two sisterly countries in various fields, particularly in the field of developing and expanding communications and transportation cooperation between Jordan and Egypt to achieve the objectives laid down by the leaders of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] to invest in ACC countries.

The Egyptian ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

The Egyptian minister arrived in Amman today to take part in the meetings of the Arab Maritime Bridge Company to begin tomorrow with the participation of the Iraqi transport and communications minister.

AL-RA'Y on Israeli Measures, U.S. Position

JN0806075089 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Jun 89 p 1

[Editorial: "Civilized Feelings, Here and There"]

[Text] The UN Security Council is still studying the situation in the occupied territories after it has deteriorated to a level that portends serious consequences and forces the international organization to shoulder its responsibility to protect the Palestinians in those areas according to the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

It is clear that the oppressive practices committed by Israeli troops in cooperation with Jewish settlers behind the walls of occupation are a blatant embodiment of the organized terrorism which contravenes all international laws and norms. It is also clear that the continuation of this terrorism is behind the worsening conditions which the UN Security Council is studying. It is important to recall that this study is not an end in itself, but it must lead to deterrent measures to force the Israeli aggressors to abandon their terrorist practices in the occupied territories.

In light of this, any loose resolutions issued by the security council merely calling for self-restraint or voicing concern will not lead to any result, especially if they come as a result of fear that the United States will use its veto canopy to protect Israel. It is clear that any such protection will be an indefensible paradox when compared to the sanctions recently imposed by the United States against the PRC following events that could be considered internal. Meanwhile, the crimes committed by Israel in the occupied territories represent—by any standard—aggression, carried out by an occupying power against an unarmed people living under that occupation, which constitutes a violation of the fourth Geneva Convention.

Needless say, genuine civilized feelings cannot be triggered by events that take place in one place while they are a canopy to protect aggressors in another.

Hence, all those who talk about civilized feelings are asked to translate them into real action to deter the Israeli aggressors and push the UN Security Council to take effective measures to put an end to the worsening situation in the occupied territories.

Paper Reports on 'Underground Leaflets'
JN0706125189 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 5 Jun 89 p 8

[By Rana Sabbagh]

[Text] Bypassing the government-controlled press, Jordanians have become pamphleteers to air their views of what ails the nation and how to cure it.

Riots over price rises killed 11 people in April and toppled the government of Zayd al-Rifa'i. Since then, the kingdom has been swept by a trend for distributing pamphlets.

This is a kind of grassroots glasnost signalling that, with the first parliamentary elections in 22 years promised later this year, political life seems open to reform after a long sleep.

Scores of leaflets, unsigned or using pseudonyms, heap accusations of curruption, nepotism, secrecy and financial mismanagement on past governments and former ministers.

Others urge the revival of watchdog institutions like Parliament and independent news media. These and many other rights are guaranteed in the constitution but critics say they have not been fully respected.

The government took control of newspapers last August and silenced most dissenting voices in the press. Political parties have been banned since the late 1950's although the Muslim Brotherhood is tolerated.

The underground leaflets are often scattered in crowded districts early in the morning. During the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan, communist groups distributed pamphlets while Jordanians ate their main meal after sunset.

Other pamphlets are sent by mail, faxed or passed around the closely interwoven society of gossip-loving citizens.

Such pamphlets circulate alongside signed statements and open letters from professional associations and pressure groups calling for political parties and other reforms.

Sari Nasi, head of the sociology department at Jordan University, said the trend was linked to the inhibitions, frustrations and tensions which people seemed to be undergoing.

"This is a way of trying to express oneself in the absence of greater freedom of expression," he said. "Given such circumstances, what do you do? You either explode or express yourself in a hostile manner."

Political observers believe the flood of pamphlets will fade once preparations start for the first parliamentary election since 1967, promised by King Husayn before the end of this year.

Husayn, 54, has ruled since 1952 and maintained remarkable stability in a pro-Western country which has a large population of Palestinians who fled to Amman during the 1948 and 1967 Arab-Israeli wars.

The stage for more open politics was set when Husayn disengaged Jordan from the Israeli-held West Bank last year. The new Parliament will be elected on the basis of Jordan's actual borders instead of claiming, like its predecessor, to represent the people of the lost territories as well.

Political changes are also needed to ensure popular support for painful reforms of a debt-burdened economy which can no longer count on the easygoing assistance it received in the past from wealthy Arab states and the West.

Analysts say the new government of Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir has embarked on reconciliatory policies and shown more openness since it took over on April 27.

Government ministers cited a breakdown in communications and trust as one reason for the riots.

The new cabinet has reinstated five journalists who lost their jobs for political reasons during the past year, loosened its hold on the press and engaged in a dialogue with leaders of the politically-aware professional groups.

Israeli, Lahd Activities in South Detailed

NC0706164789 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Excerpts] According to Amal Movement security reports, at 0900 this morning, an Israeli force advanced towards the town of Yuhmur on the edge of the al-Litani River and raked the surrounding woods. The force was still in the town by midday.

NNA [NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY] correspondent has reported that an Israeli reconnaissance plane flew over Jazzin District, the edges of western Al-Biqa', and Hasbayya early this morning under a cover of heavy artillery shelling from the al-Litani River bed, al-Turrah hills, Mimas Junction, and al-Jabal al-Awsat. [passage omitted]

A group of agend Lahd militia led by intelligence official Agend Nidal stormed Shab'a town and demanded Mukhtar [village head] Muhammad al-Zuhari to open a civil administration office in the town. The mukhtar refused to do so. Consequently, Agent Nidal appointed Muhammad Tawbah, Adib Rammal, and Mustafa Tamir as officials in charge of the alleged office after they managed to occupy one of the houses and dismiss the mukhtar.

Four members of the Lahd militia have met with the al-Habbariyah mayor and ordered him to open a civil administration office.

Israeli Overflights Reported

NC0806082689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier at 1053 today while flying reconnaissance sorties in the Lebanese skies.

Mock Air Raids Staged

NC0806110089 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Israeli warplanes carried out mock raids over Sidon and its camps at approximately 0930 this morning drawing antiaircraft fire. The enemy's warplanes reached the skies of the mountain and Beirut where they broke the sound barrier.

Shelling of Coastal, Mountain Areas Reported

NC0706210389 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The Jubayl coast came under renewed Syrian shelling as of 2320 today. Several 130-mm shells fell on that coast. The source of shelling is believed to be in West Beirut and the north. Shells also fell on the Kasrawan coast.

Army positions in Dahr al-Wahsh in the mountain came under machinegun and rocket fire between 2200 and 2300 today. The shelling resumed a while ago, as four shells fell on Dahr al-Wahsh. This was accompanied by intermittent medium-caliber machine gun fire.

Martyr's Memorial Monument in Sidon Dynamited

NC0706164989 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Unidentified persons riding in a car threw a stick of dynamite at the memorial monument of Martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd in al-Bawwabah al-Fawqa area in the city of Sidon today causing considerable damage to the monument and stirring up a wave of denunciation.

Group Claims Attack on Syrian Roadblock

NC0806112689 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] The 16 January Organization for the Liberation of Tripoli has claimed responsibility for the attack on a Syrian occupation forces roadblock in the al-Bahsas area shortly before 0800 today. The attack left one member of the Syrian special troops dead and another member wounded.

Al-Huss Discusses 'Change' in U.S Policy

JN0706195589 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 6 Jun 89 p 27

[Interview with Acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss by 'Umar Sabahi in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Sabahi] In light of the tripartite committee's statement, the Lebanese problem has returned to the Arab foreign ministers. What does Prime Minister al-Huss expect on the political and security levels?

[Al-Huss] We wager on the seriousness of the Arab move that was launched at the Casablanca summit. We believe that the tripartite committee can attain great achievements to help Lebanon overcome its crisis. We hope this because the tripartite committee is formed from Arab leaders who are known for their Arab and international influence. And the Arab resolution in term of its political context can decide issues that are related to the solution—issues that were the subject of fruitless controversy on the eve of the summit. These issues are related to the priorities of the required solution. The summit resolution decides the course of solution in a way that does not tolerate any controversy; it calls for holding reforms before holding presidential elections; and it came as a categorical response to all those who encroach on the legitimacy of the Chamber of Deputies and those who call for shelving the discussion on the constitutional and political reforms. The resolution also obstructed the so-called war of liberation.

All this makes us hope that the tripartite committee will succeed in its move to find the required solutions to the Lebanese crisis within the 6 months defined by the summit resolution. [passage omitted]

[Sabahi] A remarkable American change vis-a-vis the situation in Lebanon has been noticed in the wake of the Casablanca summit. Is this change connected to the 2-month war in Lebanon or to what the United States wants to see happening in the Middle East?

[Al-Huss] We do not understand the reason behind this change if there is really a genuine change. The statements made by the U.S. ambassador in Beirut in the wake of his return to his post after a leave he spent in Washington made us worry. The U.S. ambassador to Lebanon called in two successive statements for holding dialogue with General 'Awn. We wanted to find out the facts of this issue. We hope that this does not mean a change in the U.S. foreign policy with regard to Lebanon.

During the past period we heard statements by U.S. officials and spokesmen calling for wagering on the Arab initiative and urging the Arab League to assume its full role in the endeavor to help Lebanon overcome the crisis. And the last thing in this regard was the letter U.S. President George Bush sent to Morocco's King Hassan II during the Casablanca summit in his capacity as the chairman of the extraordinary summit. Therefore, when the changes in the U.S. stand appeared we began to worry about the obstacles that the tripartite committee might face as a result of any reserved development in the U.S. stand. Any aspects of change even if they are not true will of course prompt new wagers among those who do not have an interest in achieving any solution in Lebanon.

[Sabahi] You charged officials at the Foreign Ministry to seek clarification from American Ambassador John McCarthy with regard to his statements. What was the response?

[Al-Huss] The answer was neither satisfactory nor sufficient, particularly since the ambassador continued to make statements in the same direction. I charged Dr Ilyas Saba to head for Washington to hold direct contacts with U.S. officials so that we will be well-informed about the true U.S. policy vis-a-vis Lebanon at this stage. [passage omitted]

Qansuh States U.S. Will Not Halt 'Awn Support

NC0706172089 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Eng 'Asim Qansuh, regional secretary of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon, has expressed the view that the U.S. Administration will not actually relinquish its support for 'Awn. He said that the U.S. Administration's policy on Lebanon resembles its stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Qansuh noted that 'Awn is no longer qualified to assume any positive role in a political solution for subjective and objective reasons and because his continued presence is a symbol of military dictatorship.

Answering a question, Qansuh said: Our war with Israel is continuous and the decision to confront it [Israel] is a firm one.

Al-Huss, Birri Comment on Tripartite Committee

NC0606181389 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has affirmed that the tripartite committee is capable of a great deal to assist Lebanon. He noted that the Arab summit had decided the issue of priorities, stipulated that reform should precede elections, and responded emphatically to attempts to contest the Chamber of Deputies' legitimacy.

Meanwhile, Amal Movement leader Minister Nabih Birri has noted that the tripartite committee, with its backing, constitutes a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the Lebanese. He said the cause of the present Lebanese crisis is the fact that all the resources were controlled by political Maronism, and stressed that this Maronism is perilous for Lebanon and for the Maronites in particular.

Further on Comments

NC0806115289 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss said today that the Arab summit resolution has ended an rgument in Lebanon on thc question of the priorities for a solution. This resolution, he said, stipulates that the Chamber of Deputies should first endorse the political reforms document and then elect a president for the republic.

In an interview to be published tomorrow by the magazine AMAL, Al-Huss said: We cannot imagine a solution that does not contain an agreement on the political reforms formula. The prime minister said that nobody can oppose the solution that will be presented by the Arab tripartite committee because of the unanimous Arab move. He expressed his belief that those who will be harmed by the solution might be able to delay its implementation but will not be able to prevent it. He said: Our contacts with the leaders in the eastern area, particularly the deputies, have not ceased. We are eager to continue the contacts between us and the political leaders in the eastern area.

Prime Minister al-Huss also said: We have no explanation to or justification for the statements made by U.S. Ambassador John McCarthy. He pointed out that the object of the Israeli threat is to undermine the Arab action and that it is connected with the signs of relaxation in the area.

'Awn Comments on 'War of Liberation'

NC0706115389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn has emphasized that it is now time for everyone, specifically those who are endeavoring, moving, and have embarked upon initiatives, to deal with our war as it is. They should not deal with it as it is portrayed by the techniques of diplomacy or by Arab or international etiquette.

In a speech during the graduation of seven staff officers today, Gen 'Awn said: What is currently taking place is a war of liberation against the occupation, not a power struggle or infighting between sects, factions, and organizations.

He added that the war of liberation has ended all the wars raging in Lebanon and disclosed the identity of the real ongoing war on our land. It is more or less a war for sovereignty, and the occupation forces must retreat from our land to their land in Damascus and Tel Aviv.

Amal, Fatah-Revolutionary Council Meet

NC0706141789 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] A meeting took place today between an Amal Movement delegation composed of Dr Ayyub Humayyid, chairman of the movement's executive committee, and Attorney Haytham Jum'ah, member of the Movement's political bureau, and a delegation from the Fatah-Revolutionary Council composed of Walid Khalid and Yunis 'Imran. The discussion concerned the latest developments in the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas, particularly the development of the Palestinian Arab people's revolution inside occupied Palestine and the continuation of the popular resistance in the south.

Both sides emphasized the cohesion of the Lebanese and Palestinian national forces in the face of the plots being carried out by the Zionist enemy and imperialism in order to frustrate the blessed intifadah [uprising] in Palestine and weaken the Lebanese nationalist forces though their agents in Lebanon.

Birri Refuses To Supply Fuel to Power Plant

NC0706133789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] At a time when reports say that differences between Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt are widening and the Syrians are attempting to reconcile them, the Voice of Lebanon has learned that Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri has decided not to supply al-Jiyah power plant with fuel. This caused a complete cut off of electricity in the mountain areas. In turn, Junblatt threatened to use force against Amal if Birri persists in his stand.

Relations between the two sides deteriorated when Junblatt accused Birri of transporting foodstuffs from the port of Tyre to the eastern area. This was followed by a propaganda campaign by the two sides.

Plant To Resume Operations

NC0706191989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Eng Musa Tarabulsi, chairman of the Southern Electricity Company, has said that al-Jiyah power plant will resume the production of electricity within 2 or 3 days after the trucks carrying fuel arrived today from the al-Zahrani refinery and after contacts made by Dr Salim al-Huss.

Al-Rasi Leaves Tehran, Holds Talks in Damascus

NC0706133389 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The official Lebanese delegation led by Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi, deputy prime minister and interior minister, returned from Tehran today after participating in the funeral of Imam Khomeyni, the deceased leader of the Islamic revolution.

On his way back to Beirut via Damascus, Minister al-Rasi met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and discussed with him regional and international conditions and their connection with the Lebanese issue in light of the Casablanca summit resolutions.

According to sources close to Minister al-Rasi, Syria fully supports the Arab resolutions and it is prepared to implement them.

Upon his arrival in Beirut, Minister al-Rasi telephoned Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss.

FRG Reportedly To Reopen Beirut Embassy

NC0706193789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The FRG Government has decided to reopen its embassy in Beirut, which it had recently closed. FRG Ambassador Wolfgang Guetelman has returned to Beirut and asked to meet with Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn.

Afghanistan

Mujahidin, Soviets Hold Talks on POW's

BK0606155989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The third round of talks between Afghan mujahidin and Soviet officers was held in Islamabad today. These talks concern the release of Soviet soldiers captured during the past 10 years.

A spokesman of the Afghan interim government told a Radio Pakistan representative that his delegation made some proposals to the Soviet officers, and they agreed to apprise their government in Moscow of those proposals.

The Soviet officers have claimed that more than 300 Soviet soldiers are missing from the fighting in Afghanistan, whereas Afghan mujahidin say they are holding only a few [Soviet] soldiers.

'Extremists' Fire 4 Rockets at Kabul 6 Jun

LD0706174489 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Criminal Pakistan-backed extremists who are hostile to the peace and tranquillity of our compatriots yesterday night again fired four rockets blind at Kabul city. BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY'S military section reports that one rocket fired by the criminals landed on Mohammad Zaher's house, a tailor, as a result of which six people, including five innocent children, were injured. The wounded were immediately transferred to a hospital for serious treatment. Three other rockets landed in nonresidential areas in wards four, five and seven, and fortunately caused no casualties.

Notices Submitted to UNGOMAP on Violations

Notices 541-544 Reported

LD0206084689 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 2 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 1, BAKHTAR—Notes number 541 to 544 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan on violations by Pakistan of the provisions of the Geneva Accords were submitted to the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP) here on Wednesday.

In the note number 541 it is pointed out that despite the presence of the UN observers in the Towr Kham border area, the Pakistani authorities continue dispatch of armaments from that country via Towr Kham into the territory of the RA [Republic of Afghanistan]. Four lorries of arms and ammunition on their way to Nangarhar Province were stopped by the UN observers and prevented to enter Afghanistan on May 22, the note added.

Strict information on the installment of a radio transmitter in the frontier areas for extremists by the Pakistani military men construction works of which is in full swing are given.

The notes ask the mission that as per para 7, document number 4 of the Geneva accords assess the mentioned Pakistani violations and convey results of its findings to the concerned sides immediately.

Notices 548-549 Reported

LD0406062489 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, Jun 3, BAKHTAR—Since the enforcement of the Geneva Accords which as a result of several years of endeavours were signed between Afghanistan and Pakistan, the Pakistani militarymen are trampling it. Pakistani violations from the said take new broad dimensions by every passing day.

One of the brutal violations of Pakistan of that accords is arming and dispatching of extremist armed groups from the Pakistani territory inside the Afghan territory to commit murder, arson and plunder here.

Notes Number 548 and 549 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan on 12 instances of Pakistani violations which are in contravention with the spirit of these accords were submitted to the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP) here on Friday.

The notes ask UNGOMAP that as per para 7, Document Number 4 of the Geneva accords assess the violations and convey results of its findings to the Afghan side and representative of the UN secretary general immediately.

Notices 550-554 Reported

LD0506063189 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 4, BAKHTAR—The Pakistani militarymen through furnishing extremists with ground to ground rockets blatantly violate provisions of the Geneva accords.

A number of Kabul residents were killed and scores others wounded as a result of the extremists rocket attacks at Kabul last Thursday and Friday.

To this effect the 550 to 554 notes of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan were handed over to the office of the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP) here on Saturday.

The mission is asked that as per para 7, document number 4 of the Geneva accords assess the said violations and convey immediately results of its finding to the sides concerned. [sentence as received]

Notices 555-559 Reported

LD0606091889 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 5, BAKHTAR—Notes number 555 to 559 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan on violations by Pakistan of the provision of article 2, document number 1 of the Geneva accords were handed over to the Office of the United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP) here on Sunday. [4 June]

Precise information on 20 instances of Pakistani violations of the said including extremists rocket attacks on Kabul which has resulted to the killing of several women, children and innocent people, dispatch of lethal arms to extremists inside Afghanistan, creation of the newly establised Mata Sankar military training camp where extremists are trained in the use of armaments and later sent inside Afghanistan to commit murder, sabotage and plunder are provided to the mission in the notes.

Also, information on the recent measures adopted by the Pakistani authorities to delude UNGOMAP to supervise such military training camps and active role of a CIA spy played under this mister, Timy and Haji nicknames are also given in the notes. [sentence as received]

The mission is asked to assess these Pakistani violations of the Geneva accords, which are in complete contravention with the provisions of the Geneva accords and all the internationally accepted norms and principles, and convey results of its findings to the concerned sides and representative of the UN secretary.

Najibullah Offers Condolences at Iranian Embassy

LD0706194889 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, went to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning and signed a special book on the demise of Grand Ayatollah Ruhollah al-Musavi al-Khomeyni, and expressed his deep condolences in this respect.

BAKHTAR reports that Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers Executive Committee; Vice President 'Abdul Rahim Hatif and Vice President Dr 'Abdul Waheb Sarabi; Dr Mahmud Habibi, chairman of the Senate; the administrative staff of the Milli Shura; deputies; members of the Council of Ministers; the heads of social organizations and the leaders of political parties; members of the High Council of 'Ulema and Clergy; a number of generals; the governor of Kabul and Province and the mayor of Kabul city; and senior government officials also registered their condolences in the special book today.

Hundreds of Shi'a residents of Kabul expressed their sorrow on the demise of Ayatollah Khomeyni today in a gathering arranged in the Mohammadia Mosque in Kabul.

BAKHTAR reports that after the recitation of verses from the Koran and after prayers, detailed speeches were delivered on the personality of Ayatollah Khomeyni and special religious rituals were performed. Later, the participants marched through Kabul's streets to the Iranian Embassy and expressed their condolences on the death of Ayatollah Khomeyni to the people of Iran.

Najibullah Receives WFDY Delegation

LD0506074189 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 4, BAKHTAR—President of the Republic of Afghanistan [RA] Najibullah, received in the Gol Khanah Palace of the Presidency of the RA delegation of the World Federation of Democratic Youth [WFDY] headed by 'Ali Jilani, representative of that federation and member of the nation-wide Union of Palestinian Youths here today.

Matters relating to politico-military situation in the country and the process of the national reconciliation as well as role and duties of the members of the WFDY for the maintenance of world peace were discussed during the meeting.

At the invitation of the Democratic Youth Organisation of the Republic of Afghanistan the delegation is currently paying a visit to the RA.

Narcotics Seized in April, May

LD0106060789 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 1 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, May 31, BAKHTAR—A quantity of twenty six kilogrammes of heroin, hashish and opium imported by the extremists from Pakistan was discovered and seized by the encharges [as received] of the anti-crime department of the Interior Ministry during April-May of this year.

The smugglers were about that through the sale of the said make a good fortune on one hand and to addict innocent youngsters with those narcotics on the other. [sentence as received]

Bangladesh

Paper Registers Concern Over Regional Arms Race

BK0606151489 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 31 May 89 p 5

[Editorial: "The Arms Race in the Subcontinent"]

[Text] The successful test-firing by India of a surface to surface missile with a range of 160 miles marks a stage of development in the missile technology that is a matter of pride for the Indian arms research institutions. The "Agni" belongs to a series of missiles from Prithvi, Akash, Nag, and others in the pipeline. It is also aiming for intercontinental ballistic missile, now a subject of

vigorous research. Whatever the justification, military or commercial, India is offering for going ahead with the development in its missile technology, the fact remains that it is bound to give fresh momentum to existing tensions between India and Pakistan, in the first place, and produce destabilising effects on the general situation in the subcontinent, in the second.

Those with the interest of this region, with India at its centre, at heart have been led to contemplate with concern such an escalation in the existing arms race and where it may end up. For one thing, geopolitically or geo-militarily, the balance of power between the two rivals, India and Pakistan, has been a delicately maintained one over the years, and the fear of either of them acquiring a strategic edge over the other instantaneously leads the latter to do its best to catch up, if not to outstrip, its rival.

The exploding of a nuclear device by India in 1974 was the first extraordinary (for the non-nuclear subcontinent) turn in the arms race. In response to the proven nuclear success by India, Pakistan started bending its research and search towards a defensive weapon matching the latest superior Indian one. We are not aware if Pakistan has perfected its nuclear technology enough to produce the bomb. Pakistan however keeps rejecting the charge that its nuclear efforts are not for purposes of energy generation but for the manufacture of a bomb. The fact is counter-defence against manifest threats posed by superior weaponry is the common style of strategic reaction.

The latest missile event is calculated not only to accelerate the arms competition between the two countries from the nuclear to the missile line, but drive the two neighbours farther apart increasingly diminishing the possibility of rapprochement or reconciliation. The distance from missiles that could hit targets inside an enemy country and a live, shooting war is short. It is indeed shorter where mutual mistrust and suspicion is both endemic and historical. India has fought three wars with Pakistan and one with China. It must be a reflection on the quality of subcontinental statesmanship that the whole period since the wars has been one more of mounting tension than of any positive bilateral or multilateral (including China) move towards defusing it and developing the philosophy of co-existence. The escalated arms race threatens to blot out such a chance for good.

The newly growing impulse towards a febrile arms build-up in the subcontinent is in painful contrast to the overall global effort by the superpowers to deescalate global tension by cutting arms including nuclear ones and pulling out troops from the hitherto sensitive borders. China and Russia have provided the regional example of how two estranged countries could become comrades again. May be, Gorbachev's imaginative approach to the old Sino-Soviet enmity coupled with his statesmanship and supraparochial vision, made this miracle possible. In the West the bilateral decision on the cards for troops and armaments reduction in Europe is the other example of the world moving in the direction of peace—away from the temptation to war. The bitter experience of peace to be built up by cutting not only the material means of war but also trying to make the hearts meet.

This the superpowers are doing despite their financial and technological capability to make arms, and maintain them and the troops that will use them. For the Asian subcontinent or for that matter, poor Third World countries massive defense outlays and reaching for sophisticated lethal weapons is a crime against the teeming millions that live below the poverty line, but are made to pay for them. Certainly for the Indian subcontinent the wisest course is not that of perpetual collision—and perhaps an eventual war with at best a pyrrhic victory, if at all but to follow the modern example set by the superpowers and work it out within the frame of their regional relationship.

Wise- and wizened-Indians, Hindus and Muslims, must be missing Mahatma Gandhi and his philosophy which real-politik seems to have sabotaged and supplanted creating problems making answers difficult to find.

Nationals in Beijing Reported Safe

BK0706155989 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] A Foreign Office source in Dhaka says all the Bangladesh nationals, including the students, in Beijing are safe. The Bangladesh Embassy in Beijing is in touch with Bangladesh nationals.

Hasina Urges Intensifying Movement for Democracy

BK0706143989 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 6 Jun 89 pp 1, 10

[Text] Awami League President and Eight-party Alliance leader Sheikh Hasina on Monday called upon the progressive forces of the country to intensify the movement for restoration of democracy. "The movement will be successful and we would establish people's rule", Sheikh Hasina said.

The Awami League chief was speaking as chief guest at the two-day national conference of Chhatra League (S-R) at the hall area of Dhaka University. Sheikh Hasina lauded the role of Chhatra League in different national crisis and said the history of Chhatra League was the history of Bangladesh.

Sheikh Hasina alleged that after the killing of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman [founder and first president of Bangladesh] in 1975, reactionery politics was deep-rooted in the country. The country was virtually witnessing Martial Law since the last 14 years, she asserted. She called upon the students community to fight for the establishment of democracy. She said that although the present government task of development the fruits of development did not reach the masses.

[sentence as published] Rather the trend was that the rich became richer, the poor became poorer, she observed. She felt that a particular neo-rich class was created to expoit the masses.

Sheikh Hasina said that the reactioneries killed Bangabandhu but they could not erase his name from the history.

Sheikh Hasina expressed her grave concern over the price hike of essentials. She said, now 99 percent of the people was living below poverty level and unemployment seriously gripped the nation.

Commenting on the seven-point demand of Eight-Party, the Awami League chief said that these were the basic demands of the common people. She called upon the students to intensify the movement on the basis of 7-point demand.

She stressed the need for unity of democratic forces for unseating the present Government. Explaining her recent tour in some foreign countries, Sheikh Hasina said that she got unexpected support towards the democratic movements of Bangladesh people.

Resenting the brutal actions by Chinese military on the students and people there Sheikh Hasina said it was unexpected and barbaric.

She called upon the Chhatra League members to uphold the ideology of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Presided over by Sultan Mohammed Mansoor Ahmed, the conference was also addressed by General Secretary of the organisation, Mr. Abdur Rahman.

UNB [UNITED NEWS OF BANGLADESH] adds:—Referring to her just concluded tour abroad, Hasina said she launched the international campaign to mobilise world support for the democratic struggle in Bangladesh. She questioned why the country should be "deprived of democracy when a democratic wave was sweeping across the whole world. [no closing quotation marks as published]

Hasina said some vested quarters raised controversy and section of government-controlled media even published indecent news about her visit to mislead people's opinion.

She made it clear that her politics, plans and movement were aimed at welfare of the commonman who have been subjected to repression and deprivation for the last 14 years by autocratic regimes.

"Personally, I have nothing to get because I am the daughter of the Bangabanbdhu, the father of the nation. My struggle is for the people and I am ready, to sacrifice my life like my father for the cause of the people", Hasina said in an emotion-choked voice.

Recalling the glorious contribution of the Chhatra League towards all political movements since 1952, the Awami League chief said the history of the organisation was the history of the Bengalee nation. It played a leading role in all democratic, economic, and cultural struggles in the past, she added.

'Record' Heroin Seizure Made 7 Jun

BK0806051489 Hong Kong AFP in English 0447 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Dhaka, June 8 (AFP)—Security forces seized a record 24 kilograms (52.8 pounds) of heroin in a Bangladesh border town where they made a similar haul last week, officials said here Thursday.

Bangladeshi border guards late Wednesday raided two travellers' inns in Jessore, 136 kilometers (85 miles) from here, and seized the high-quality "white sugar" heroin, valued locally at 7.31 million U.S. dollars, they said.

On May 28 authorities seized nine kgs (20 pounds) of a similar quality heroin, described then as Bangldesh's single largest drug haul.

Security personnel in Jessore, bordering India's West Bengal State and a busy land route between the two countries, with Wednesday's haul, have over the past year seized 49 kgs (107.8 pounds) of heroin valued at 15.62 million dollars.

The drugs wrapped in polythene were hidden inside gunny bags in rented rooms of the two inns. Security personnel were looking for suspects.

Last month police in Dhaka, which has an estimated 50,000 drug addicts, recovered 1.15 kg (2.5 pounds) of heroin hidden in a man's lunch box.

Drug control officials say Bangladesh, which has long been used as a transit country for notorious drug rings, has over the years also turned into a market.

Social workers citing a recent survey said the number of addicts has surpassed five million, from two million a year ago. No official confirmation of the figure was available.

India

Surface-to-Air Missile Test-Fired 'Successfully'

BK0706160589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] India today [7 June] successfully test-fired another surface-to-air missile—Trishul [Trident]—from the interim test range at Chandipur in Orissa. This was announced by a Defense Ministry spokesman in New Delhi.

The project director, the Defense Research Development Organization, described today's firing as totally successful.

Patrols With Pakistan To Check Crimes Agreed On
BK0806031089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] India and Pakistan have decided to undertake joint patrolling in specified sensitive areas on Punjab border to check smuggling, drug trafficking, and terrorist activities. It has also been agreed to exchange information on these matters. This decision was taken at a meeting of senior BSF [Border Security Force] officials and Pakistan Rangers at Wagah border yesterday.

Army Claims Success Against Nagaland Insurgency
BK0306084989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] In Nagaland, the Army has succeeded in isolating the underground elements by its vigorous counterinsurgency measures and establishing a close rapport with the Naga tribals. A series of various development measures, especially in the far-flung areas of the state, and the induction of Naga youths in the Army's ranks have also helped in the task of bringing the people into the mainstream. These impressions were given by several Naga headmen and Army officials to a group of newsmen who made an extensive visit to the remote areas early this week. The newsmen had reported that in the remote villages, however, medical facilities should be stepped up. They added that the Army has been providing a great deal of help to the local population in constructing playgrounds, school buildings, churches, and community halls.

Communist Leader Critical of Opposition Policies
BK2705040489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 May 89

[Text] The nonagenarian communist leader, Mr S.A. Dange, has urged the Congress-I to lead the fight against imperialist and communalist forces. In a message read out at the inaugural conference of the Communist Party formed by the merger of the All India Communist Party and the Indian Communist Party, floated by the late Mr Kalyanasundaram, in Salem, Tamil Nadu, Mr Dange charged the rightist opposition parties with doing their best even to paralyze the functioning of Parliament and the government. Mr Dange said these parties were trying to divert people's attention from urgent issues to corruption, even imaginary, to help them in their drive to destabilize the country.

Referring to the [opposition's] National Front, Mr Dange said their political outfit presented a sorry picture of intrigues, infighting, and disarray. Yet they pretended they could give the people a good government, Mr Dange added.

Mr Dange said by openly advocating Hindu Rashtra [Hindu Nation], the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] had given up its national party position, while the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] has stuck to its anti-congressism in the hope of increasing its strength in the Lok Sabha. The CPI's present policy of following the CPI-M and running after the DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam] and AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagham] for the sake of a few seats had only shown the party's bankruptcy of policy, Mr Dange pointed out.

New Communist Party Formed
BK3005035489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 May 89

[Text] A new communist party, named as United Communist Party of India, has been formed. Mr S.A. Dange will be the chairman and Mr Mohit Sen, general secretary of the party. In its first national conference held in Salem yesterday, the new party welcomed the panchayati raj [village council administration] bill and appealed to all the political parties to give a fair trial to it and suggest improvements in the interest of the people.

President Leaves for 'Frontline' African States
BK0606051289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The president, Mr R.Venkataraman, left New Delhi this morning on a week-long state visit to African frontline states of Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Tanzania. He was seen off by the vice president, Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma; the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; and several of his Cabinet colleagues. Mr Venkataraman is accompanied by Mrs Janaki Venkataraman and a high-level delegation, including the union minister, Mr Eduardo Faleiro; the president's principal secretary, Mr Prem Kumar; and the secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, Mr Gonsalves.

The president will hold talks with the heads of the three African states and address Indian communities living there. Mr Venkataraman returns home on the 13th.

Minister Optimistic About State of Economy
BK2305092289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 23 May 89

[Text] The finance minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, has said that the country's economy is poised for a higher growth and the planners are now planning for a growth target of 6 percent per annum during the Eighth [5-year Development Plan] Plan as compared to 5 percent in the current plan. Inaugurating the economic editors conference in New Delhi, the finance minister pointed out that the growth rate in sectors like industry, transportation, and infrastructural areas has exceeded the Seventh Plan target of 5 percent per annum. This economic performance has demonstrated certain basic strengths of the

economy. The minister was optimistic that the country will be able to achieve the plan target of 175 million tons of food grains by the end of the Seventh Plan.

Mr Chavan stressed the need for increasing the rate of savings, particularly the public savings, which are needed for investment in infrastructural services. He said an increase in the rate of savings is essential even for balance of payments management. He revealed that the government is trying its best to ensure further procedural simplifications so that incentives for exports are made available with greater ease, certainty, and expedition. Exporters must in turn fulfill their obligations for higher exports.

Referring to the risks involved in excessive borrowing and indebtedness, the finance minister reiterated that the government does not intend to increase the overall level of commercial borrowings this year. Giving details of the measures taken to maintain the price line and keep the deficit under check, the finance minister said the government has kept the budgetary deficit within sustainable limit and exercised strict fiscal discipline. He expressed the hope that with the bumper harvest expected and higher productivity in industry, it would be possible for the government to control the increase in prices during the current year.

Mr Chavan said that the government is committed to the objective of raising the living conditions of the poor. The Jawahar Rozgar Yojna—a massive employment program—is a step in this direction. The second major initiative relates to the Panchayati Raj [village Council Administration] and the decentralization of authority and responsibility so that the two basic objectives of work for the people and power to the people could be achieved.

Balance of Payment Situation Improves
BK0606162089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] There have been some improvements in the country's balance of payment situation as exports are continuing to rise this year also. The trade deficit was made up by over 57 percent and fell from 758 crore rupees in April last year to 320 crores in April this year. This has been disclosed by the union commerce minister, Mr Dinesh Singh, at a weekly meeting of senior officials in New Delhi today. He said the buoyancy in exports witnessed from January to March this year continued in April also. They are estimated to have fetched more than 1,957 crore rupees—a rise of 35.8 percent over the export figure of April last year. Whereas, imports during the month grew by only 3.6 percent. Mr Singh said the encouraging initial trends indicate an export growth rate higher than that of imports.

Radar-Controlled Anti-Aircraft Guns Overhauled
BK2305134489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 23 May 89

[Text] Two indigenously overhauled radar-controlled (Shilka) anti-aircraft guns rolled out of the Army base workshop at Meerut today. These guns were received by the Army chief, General V.N. Sharma, and handed over to the regiment of artillery. General Sharma said the workshop has the capability to produce 10 overhauled (Shilkas) annually. He said with this infrastructure the country is in position to recycle our costly radar-controlled guns and save several crores of rupees to the exchequer.

'Most Sophisticated' Major Port Opens
BK2405114989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 May 89

[Text] India's most sophisticated major port of Nhava Sheva near Bombay has begun operations. Aimed at easing congestion of the Bombay harbor, the computerized facilities can handle bulk cargo and containers with great speed. AIR [ALL INDIA RADIO] correspondent, Mahadev Prakashi, who visited Nhava Sheva, says the remarkable feature is that unlike others, this port has been built from scratch in a record time of 3 and ½ years by Indian engineers with Canadian know-how.

The prime minister is dedicating the port to the nation on Friday. The project is estimated to cost about 880 crore rupees, of which 700 crores have already been spent. The World Bank has given a loan of about 325 crore rupees.

Gas Found in Cachar District of South Assam
BK2405094189 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 May 89

[Text] The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has struck gas in Baskandi in Cachar District of south Assam. The well will produce 40,000 cubic meters of gas per day. The commission had struck gas in Alamdila in Karimganj District last year.

Iran

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Holds News Conference

Views Relations With U.S., Arabs
LD0806070789 Tehran IRNA in English 0705 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Majlis Speaker Akbar Hasemi-Rafsanjani today said if "the Americans who have more influence than us on the Phalangists (in Lebanon) take action in securing the release of our hostages, then they can expect our help (in securing release of their hostages)."

The speaker who was addressing a news conference here attended by scores of foreign journalists, made the remarks in response to a recent statement by the U.S. President George Bush calling on Iran to help secure the release of the American hostages in Lebanon before relations between the two countries could normalise.

On a recent call by the European Parliament urging the United Nations to expel iran from the international body and give its seat to the outlawed opposition group, the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organisation [MKO], Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: "We attach no value to this view of the European Parliament. Fortunately, the European states themselves have rejected this idea."

On the Islamic Republic's relations with Arab states, particularly those in the Persian Gulf region, the Armed Forces acting commander in chief stated "there is no problem on our side" for improvement of ties. "Our goal is promotion of ties and peaceful coexistence (with them)." He added "we have received positive signals from the Persian Gulf states, except Saudi Arabia recently."

Comments on Relations With USSR

LD0806072789 Tehran IRNA in English 0725 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said today that the late Imam Khomeyni had recommended the state officials, days before his demise, to improve ties with the Soviet Union.

The speaker who was addressing a news conference attended by many foreign and Iranian journalists, said "I also think positively" of betterment of ties with Moscow.

"The main move began at the time of the dear imam. When my visit (to Moscow) became certain, I went to see the imam on (one of) these last days (before his decease). He said 'try to promote your relations with your big northern neighbour.' And we will follow this policy drawn by the imam."

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said preliminaries for an extensive agreement in economic, cultural and political fields with the Soviet Union had now reached a good stage and that both sides were in favour of improving ties.

On his scheduled visit to the Soviet Union this month, he said the preliminaries have been taken and the visit will take place but that its exact date will be announced later.

Rushdie Affair UK's Responsibility

LD0806080289 Tehran IRNA in English 0753 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Majlis speaker and Armed Forces acting commander in chief [Hashemi-Rafsanjani] today said it was up to Britain to solve the crisis created in relations between the two countries over the British writer Salman Rushdie's blasphemous novel 'The Satanic Verses.'

The Iranian Majlis unanimously voted in favour of breaking diplomatic relations with London last March after Britain failed to withdraw its support for Rushdie and condemn the book.

This came one month after Imam Khomeyni's death sentence against Rushdie for slandering Islam and its sanctities. Since then and after the unprecedented welcome by world Muslims to carry out the imam's death sentence, the Indian born author has been in hiding.

"We have left the way open for Britain in the Majlis approval. If it acts in accordance with this approval which has now become a law, (London) can open the way for reconciliation itself. It is up to the British Government now," the speaker said in response to a question posed by a British television network.

Meanwhile, according to British press reports, Iran will not withdraw its death threat against Rushdie "but is prepared to let the matter drop."

THE TIMES and DAILY EXPRESS today reported this quoting Khalim Siddiqi, director of London's Muslim Institute and head of a British delegation to Imam Khomeyni's funeral. The papers said Siddiqi made the remarks after talks with Iranian officials in Tehran.

'No Concessions' to Iraq

LD0806081189 Tehran IRNA in English 0803 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—The Armed Forces Acting Commander in Chief Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani today said the issue of the war with Iraq "has not been solved yet" but that "we are determined to put an end to it."

Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani who made the remark at a news conference here today, added that "we will, however, give no concessions (To iraq)."

He said in his opinion Iraq too "will not got back to war easily." But, he said, the no-war-no-peace state may last for some time.

A ceasefire went into effect between Iran and Iraq in August last year, one month after Iran unconditionally accepted the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 which calls for an immediate end to the eight year old war. The truce has been almost holding.

Four rounds of peace talks have so far been held under the U.N. secretary general's auspices but no essential progress has been made toward peace due to Baghdad's open instructions.

According to the U.N. peace plan iraq was obliged to withdraw its troops to the international boundaries immediately after the ceasefire, but refrains from doing so under unjustified pretexts.

Iraq still occupies more than 2,000 sq kms of Iranian territory.

The exact date of the next round of the peace talks has not been set yet.

'Not Optimistic' Over Ties With France

LD0806084189 Tehran IRNA in English 0835 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Majlis speaker and the most likely next president of the Islamic Republic of Iran Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani is not very optimistic over future of relations with France.

"(The prospect of relations with France) in the near future is not very clear. Because there seem to be powerful centres in France with great grudge against Islam and the Islamic revolution. Each time something has been done to improve ties, these centres have made sabotage. It seems that the French officials do not have the needed courage to solve even their own domestic issues."

Iran recalled its ambassador from Paris following a similar move by France in protest to Imam Khomeyni's death sentence against Salman Rushdie, writer of the blasphemous novel "The Satanic Verses."

Relations between the two countries deteriorated after a so-called 'war of embassies' in 1987 but ties were normalised in 1988 after Iran helped secure the release of four French hostages in Lebanon.

Further on News Conference

LD0806125889 Tehran IRNA in English 1250 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Majlis Speaker and Acting Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani held a news conference here this morning and answered many questions posed by scores of foreign and Iranian journalists. The conference lasted for 2 ½ hours and the speaker left the conference hall after he made sure there were no more questions.

IRNA already carried some important parts of the conference and more follows.

The Majlis speaker announced his candidacy for the August presidential elections and said he had to run for the elections since no other personality had announced readiness as yet. On the constitutional amendments, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the late imam's order for amending the Constitution was still in force and to this en the constitutional review council will continue its sessions.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the constitutional review council had approved the outlines of a law on centralization of the executive branch on the basis of which the president would be the head of the branch and the post of premiership would be either deleted or turned into the post of vice-presidency.

He predicted that the president might reinstate the prime minister as an official in charge of the cabinet.

In response to a question whether Iran was willing to revise its position on receiving loans or help from foreign countries, he responded "we have not yet made any decision to receive foreign loans... we do not, however, need them."

In relation to key plans, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, if friendly countries help Iran complete such projects and then be paid on installment basis "we will welcome it."

Asked whether any measure has been taken to provide an opportunity for Iranians abroad to return home, he replied there was no obstacle in their way back home and those who had left the country because of the war could now return.

He said although Iran has not yet declared general amnesty, the cases of those who have committed major offences would be investigated.

Responding to a question on Turkey's concern about Iranian support for Islamic movements in that country and on Tehran's reaction to a decision by the Bulgarian Government to expel Turkish Muslims from that country, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said:

"Our policy is not to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries...if it is meant support for Islam and Muslims it is a global issue and does not concern Turkey alone.

"I think the Turkish Government wants to link the problems it has with its Muslims to Iran... the Turkish Government had better present its evidence, if any, in this connection."

On the Bulgarian issue, Rafsanjani said the Sofia government had denied the charges and maintained that it observed the rights of the Bulgarian people.

Asked what he expected West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher to do, as a friend, for Tehran-Bonn rapprochement and whether there would be any (political) executions in the future, he responded: "We expect West Germany and other European states to stop their mischievous acts...the issue of executions (in Iran) is among West's mischiefs that the West Germans raise more."

He made it clear that those involved in terrorist bombings, assassination, espionage and other treasons are tried and punished. "This is how European governments dealt with their traitors after World War II," he pointed.

Questioned about Iran's neither-East-nor-West slogan in view of its expansion of ties with the East, he replied that the policy remains valid, and in no way effects trade ties.

"The slogan means the Islamic Republic of Iran will not become dependent on either the East or the West, but it was not against having relations with the West and the East," he explained.

The East, said Hashemi-Rafsanjani helped Iraq during the war and had an illegal presence in Afghanistan, "but with the coming to power of Mr Gorbachev problems were solved."

As for the West and the U.S., he noted, they maintained their hostility towards Iran and continued supporting Iraq before and after the war. The West behaved with Iran arrogantly because it wrongly thought that the Islamic Republic needed it for its post-war reconstruction, said the speaker.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani cited the Salman Rushdie issue as the latest example of the West's hostile stance against the Islamic revolution, and said "this is what the neither-East-nor-West policy is and treat us as the Soviet Union did they will see the same position on our part."

On claims that Iran was reluctant to help locate Westerners missing in Lebanon, Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the reporter to ask George Bush how could he expect "us to solve your problems in other places where we have no authority especially with regards to such hostile U.S. policy towards Iran."

Addressing American reporters, he said "Officials of your country are not serious on the issue," and questioned "Why have they frozen our assets in America? Is the U.S. a bandit or a pirate which refuses to return our assets?"

The U.S. could show its goodwill and return the assets so that Iran could in turn reciprocate and help as much as possible to locate the missing Westerners, he added.

When asked about a statement made by him a few months ago that if the archbishop of Canterbury took positive steps towards Iranian hostages in Lebanon, he would do likewise, the speaker responded:

"In my opinion, no serious steps were taken by Britain or the archbishop of Canterbury, nor have they informed us of their moves... they are not so honest towards the issue as we are."

He said, if the U.S. and Britain which have more influence on the Phalangists than Iran has on the Lebanese, took steps towards the release of Iranian hostages, Tehran will help them locate the said Westerners.

Council for Reappraisal of Constitution Meets

NC1806065189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] In order to implement the decree of the great leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, on a basic reappraisal of the Constitution within 2 months, the 18th general session of the Council for the Reappraisal of the Constitution was held yesterday afternoon with Ayatollah Meshkini presiding, despite the extreme grief of the members of the council over the great calamity of losing the great leader of the Islamic world.

The Secretariat of the Council for the Reappraisal of the Constitution reports that during this session, the chairman of the council expressed condolences on the death of the great leader and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and expressed the council's deep regret at the Islamic ummah's loss of a great blessing.

Expressing condolences on this great calamity to the Islamic world, he expressed the hope that the path of the imam of the ummah and the divine wishes and objectives of that great man will materialize in the grateful and martyr-nurturing ummah of Islamic Iran.

The report states that Ayatollah Mehskini expressed happiness with the experts' decision on leadership and stated that, with divine blessings, they were able to determine the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran in one session only. He added that Ayatollah Khamene'i enjoys a good reputation among the Armed Forces. The clergymen recognize his greatness and the people also consider him to be the special student of the leader of the revolution. Thus, he is accepted by the public in all aspects. As the movement of the imam reached this stage with God's assistance, we are confident that God's wish is to make the movement stronger and more successful. God willing, the future is bright.

In conclusion, Ayatollah Meshkini prayed for the continuation of the movement and the progress of Islam and for the soul of the imam of the ummah.

The session then continued its deliberations on the report of the first committee. Members spoke in favor and against the report on the leader and leadership experts consisting of Articles 107, 108, 109, 110 and 111, on two supplementary articles, and on the amendment of Principles 5 and 95.

After the speeches by the members, the rapporteur of the committee defended the committee's report and began to answer the members who spoke against the report. The continuation of the rapporteur's answer and voting were postponed to the next sesion which is to be held at 1600 today.

Ahmad Khomeyni Announces 7th Day Memorial

LD0706201289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni announced that the 7th day memorial for his holiness the imam will be held between 1600 to 1700 on Sunday 11 June at the pure resting place of the great leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Armed Forces To Hold Commemoration Service 8 Jun

LD0706161189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1312 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The ideological-political organization of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced that on the occasion of the heart-rending death of the holy Imam Khomeyni—may God's blessing be upon him—founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a commemoration service will be held from 0700 Thursday 18 Khordad [8 June] at the Military Sciences University on Imam Khomeyni Avenue opposite the Islamic Majlis building. We hereby invite the ummah that loves the imam to participate in this ceremony and witness the splendor of the gratitude which the soldiers of the Army of Islam feel and their appreciation for their departed commander.

Musavi Allegiance Speech; Khamene'i Reply

LD0606214989 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1635 GMT 6 jun 89

[Speech by Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi on 6 June in Tehran, expressing condolences on death of Imam Khomeyni and swearing allegiance to Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and reply by Ayatollah Khamene'i—recorded]

[Text] [Begin Musavi recording] On behalf of myself and the brothers in the cabinet, we offer our condolences to your excellency on the occasion of this great loss for the entire Islamic ummah and our own martyr-nurturing nation.

It is timely for me to raise in this very important meeting the issue that members of this cabinet have always regarded themselves as children of the imam of ummah. All their efforts were aimed at achieving the implementation of his wishes. Everybody was trying to learn what the line of the imam was and then to tread that path. Perhaps the members of the cabinet—as drops in the vast ocean of our nation—have learned that all the glory and pride they feel stem from the blessing, which was the existence of the imam.

We were beings which the previous regime had demoralized; we were victims to pressure and oppression. We achieved our Islamic and humane identity under the movement which his holiness the imam started. I think that such an achievement was the greatest blessing which the imam brought for us. That is why all the brothers in the cabinet throughout all the past 8 years—including both past and present brothers in the cabinet—all the brothers are unanimous that they must be thankful and they must make efforts to meet the great debt which they owe to the imam of ummah, to the revolution, and the martyr nurturing people. This is what the imam always told us, and which he has stressed in his will. And yet we were always ashamed that in front of the people's greatness and that of the imam we were not been able to perform as we might. The people's move today signifies the greatness of that move [as heard].

It is natural for all the brothers to be sad. Likewise, your excellency, as one of the close and outstanding disciples of the imam, whether before or after the revolution. Thus you feel the greatness of this calamity more than we do. We offer our condolences to you and to the nation.

At the same time we offer our felicitations to you on the occasion of this new responsibility—the leadership of the Islamic Republic of Iran—which in fact is the most important post and most important position to serve Islam and the revolution, whether in our country or in the world.

The cabinet has always felt that whatever it does it should be legitimate. Our pride and joy has always been that we are taking steps in a regime in which everything is defined within the framework of the Shari'ah and Islam. Outside this framework no act, whether economic, political, or governmental, has meaning. That will continue.

Certainly, God willing, we shall work with the leadership, which your excellency shall hold, within the framework of Shari'ah and the framework of law. It will be our joy that we shall work like a Muslim.

I am certain that such a spirit exists in the hearts of each one of the brothers in the cabinet—the spirit that they may succeed in being worthy combatants for Islam. And as the imam [passage indistinct]. I am not talking for this cabinet only—all governments in the Islamic Republic regime will need the support of the leadership. We can bear witness that if the support of the leadership had not existed during the past 8 years we could not have done our work. Even if this government has only served in a small way, even then it owes its existence to the blessing

of the leadership and the imam. Henceforth, the executive establishment, which may well face difficulties and hardships, can naturally go on through your excellency's support. God willing, the government may serve well.

If, God willing, our aspirations are correct—those of the brothers in the cabinet, in the ministries, and the executive branch—if all our aspirations are for God, Islamic and divine, then we ask God that these may be accepted. As it was said in the statement, the government strongly stands by the leadership and will move in that line. The government regards such a move as a religious duty and, God willing, it may well prove it in action. [end recording]

[Begin Khamene'i recording] [Passage indistinct] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I thank the respected prime minister, Engineer Musavi, for his remarks and in turn sincerely express my condolences over this great and very heavy calamity—something that truly brought fear to our hearts every time we thought about it during these 10 years, never believing that we could ever shoulder the burden which has now fallen—to each and every one of you dear brothers who have actively toiled as members of the administrative branch, in the front line of our country's current difficulties.

The truth is that we have been orphaned. The entire Iranian nation and even the Muslims living in other countries, who had been given an identity and hope, a bright future, as a result of his great character, also feel orphaned today. Our age has been the age of great events both in the world and particularly in our country.

Many great events have taken place. One of these was the revolution itself which is surely (?amazing). Our revolution was a great event. It led to the formation of the system of the Islamic Republic, a system based on moral values under conditions when the entire world, all those with power, were trying to isolate moral and spiritual values and generally make them [word indistinct]. The formation of a system based on moral values, in an atmosphere when the entire world is trying to push all moral values away is a great event, (?a miracle). In any case there are many such great events—the transformation of this nation from a weak, submissive, and oppresssed nation into a steadfast and [word indistinct] nation, is another great event. We have seen many such great events in our country in our time.

I say that our dear imam is greater than all such greatness, truly. It is because it was he who created all this greatness. It is true that our revolution is a popular one and it was the work of the multitude of the masses that changed unpleasant things into such pleasant things. However, the transformation of this nation into this condition was not possible without the capable hands of a moral, spiritual human being who relied on the power of the almighty. There is no doubt that the imam's attributes were exceptional and without parallel. The more I think about his character—and I have had many thoughts about his character and now even more when this great calamity has stricken our hearts—I see that he was a special and exceptional case.

This is truly a heavy burden of sorrow for our nation, there is a great vaccuum. I am an individual with many faults and shortcomings and truly a minor seminarian who has many shortocings and faults. However, a responsibility has been placed on my shoulders and I will use all my capabilities and all my faith in the almighty, God willing, in order to be able to bear this heavy responsibility, this great burden, to take it forward and reach its destined goal. This will obviously not be possible without the help of the people, the country's managers and various groups in this immense nation. The expressions of support by various groups of people and their offer of cooperation in this respect and for this responsibility is a source of great hope for me and, God willing, we shall be able to follow the imam's path.

To a large extent the imam's character was closely related to the importance of his aspirations. This was one of the exceptional characteristics of the late great and dear leader of ours: That he would select very lofty goals with a determination that was not possible even to think of for an ordinary person—when ordinary people with ordinary goals would be surprised faced with such goals. They would wonder if such goals were achieveable. However, staunch determination coupled with faith and tireless efforts, together with all the talents that existed within this great man, his incredible abilities, would concentrate toward achievement of the goal and suddenly everyone would realize that the goal had been reached. This has been the case since the start of the struggle.

The fundamental focal point of his aciton was the will of God and religious duty. Nothing else mattered. He was truly the embodiment of faith and correct action that we have talked about so much and read about in the Koran. His faith was as strong as mountains coupled with correct and unbelieveably tireless effort. This man was so patient and active about the action and its continuation that he amazed everyone. Therefore, great goals became achievable and it became possible to scale peaks and we saw that this happened in this great world, with all these massive upheavals, and that the Islamic Republic was born. Nobody in the world believed this and now the Islamic Republic survives—nobody believed that—the islamic Republic overcame its powerful, staunch enemies, something which nobody could have believed. We must continue this path, and in my opinion, what we must emulate in the imam is his efforts toward such goals. This is something that we must use as our (?model). That is to say, that none of the goals determined by the imam can be ignored by the Iranian nation, our Islamic revolution and the Islamic Republic system.

This great individual selected the best, most lofty and fundamental goals, talked about them and wrote about them in many of his publications and has shown the path

toward them, in the struggle against international oppression; in the decisive move on the line of neither East nor West; in his insistance on the true independence of the nation, that is true self- sufficiency; in his demand for adherence to shari'a and religious principles; in the need for unity and other such things that have always been noted as the goals and aspirations of our dear imam. The issue of Palestine has been among issues always mentioned by this great man; honor for Islam and Islamic nations; avoidance of fear in the face of world powers—these great goals were defined by the imam. The creation of justice in Islamic society; unconditional support—something that was not missed for one moment by his eminence—for the oppressed, deprived and the lower classes of society, the need to look after them, are among some of the goals and aspirations of our dear imam. You are all witnesses, you have all worked with the imam, heard his orders, I have been present and we all know that the imam continued his actions toward such goals without any hesitation, and we must follow these goals of the imam and go toward these identical goals.

The night that this great man ascended to the presence of God, at around 2220 his spirit departed his body, and we stayed there till around midnight. When I left I was in a state of shock and decided to read the Koran. When I opened the Koran I came across the Kahf surah [chapter of Koran] which started at the beginning of the page. I realized that this great man was a complete example of this surah, true faith and action and the best of rewards. We hope that the Lord Almighty allows us to follow this path and be able to complete this great task. Naturally our dear imam repeatedly said, and you have heard this, that everyone is responsible. Responsibility is not concentrated in one point or in one group, all the nation is responsible, officials of the country are responsible, those who are in charge of guiding society are responsible, and those who are charged with guiding people's minds have a double responsibility. We are all subject to this and hope that, God willing, we can carry out our duty and together, through cooperation, unity, true unity of opinion, we shall follow the path of that great one.

May God's peace and benediction be upon you. [end recording]

More Groups Pledge Allegiance to Khamene'i

IRGC Members, Minister

LD0706185289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], together with commanders and members of the corps and personnel of the Guards Corps Ministry, today pledged allegiance to Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at the presidential building. They arrived at the building after marching through the streets of Tehran.

According to IRNA, the ceremony began with the anthem of the Islamic Republic and the song "Imam, Eternal You Are." Then the commanders and personnel of the IRGC shouted slogans of allegiance to Khamene'i as well as slogans of: Guarantee the line of the leader; Khamene'i is the commander in chief and the slave of God; O commander in chief, we obey you; O Khamene'i, as Khomeyni has said we will obey you; Khomeyni, your path will go on until the revolution of Mahdi [the hidden imam]. And they made a covenant with the leader of the Islamic Republic.

IRGC Minister Shamkhani, stressed in his remarks that the children of the imam will devote their blood for the implementation of his legacy. He then said: Today, in the presence of the dear successor to the imam and the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Khamene'i—who is a trainee of the imam's theoretical and practical school—we make a covenant to devote all our efforts, according to the wishes of the commander in chief, to pursue the ideals of the Islamic revolution and the right struggle of the world's meek against the domination of global arrogance.

He added: As representatives of all the IRGC personnel and the mobilization, we announce our obedience to the holder of that lofty position—the guardianship of all Muslims of the world. We humbly inform you of our readiness to carry out the orders of velayat-e faqih [rule of jurisconsult] and as such we are ready to perform any kind of service.

According to the same report, Ayatollah Khamenei'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, referred to the fact that Muslims throughout the world are mourning the demise of the hope of the world's meek. He also said that his personality could not be compared with anybody else other than the prophets. He then added: When the dear imam humbled himself in front of the infallible imams—doing so while he possessed valuable characteristics such as strong faith, knowledge, patience, intelligence, virtue, and fear of God—then one could realize how great the infallible imams were.

Referring to the fact that during the past 10 years the mere thought of such days used to shake his heart, the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran said: We did not know how a world without Khomeyni could be endured. I personally told him several times that my most important prayer to God is to die before Khomeyni.

Ayatollah Khamene'i stressed: Now the imam's legacy, the Islamic Republic and the values enshrined in it, is entrusted to us. The imam was unique [kimya] and we were ordinary people, engaged in our studies in a small environment in Qom. He expanded our vision, he increased the limited spaces and brought about development in the souls of human beings.

Thanking the IRGC brothers for their sincere feelings, Ayatollah Khamene'i said: I regard the IRGC as the same force which the imam knew—the strong arm of the regime in confrontation with the enemies of the Islamic revolution.

Stressing the point that if the regime did not have the IRGC already then it would have to create it now, the leader of Islamic Republic said: After the acceptance of UN Resolution 598, unwittingly or motivated by ill-intentions, there appeared rumors about the fate of the IRGC. But now here I stress to the responsible officials of the IRGC that it would be most unwise for the authorities to lose the most trustworthy and strong arm of the regime, or to weaken it.

Stressing the point that the IRGC has attained a more advanced military knowledge compared with the past, he said: Up to the last moment the imam continued to emphasize the need to strengthen the Armed Forces. We too regard the IRGC as the apple of the eye of the revolution, as an institution which has grown on the soil of revolution.

Ayatollah Khamene'i added: After the imam appointed Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, our valued brother, as the acting commander in chief, then our mind was put at rest in many ways. He is the best person for that position; he must continue to stay in that position.

In conclusion, the leader of the Isamic Republic of Iran referred to the 10-year old anticipation of bats who had hoped for the setting of sun and the beginning of mischief, and then said: We must turn their hopes into dismay. We must please the soul of that great man [Khomeyni] by paying attention to and being aware of the importance of the heavy burden of resonsibility which we must carry.

Navy Commander's Message

LD0706202589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Commodore Malakzadegan, commander of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, sent a message of condolences to the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Khamene'i, reaffirming the Navy's allegiance to the leader.

The message notes: Following the burden of the heart-wrenching passing away of that great leader [Khomeyni], the appropriate and timely selection of your excellency as leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran has given superb morale to the defenders and guardians of the country's maritime border.

Foundations, Attorneys' Support

LD0706202289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The Martyrs' Foundation, the 15 Khordad Foundation, and his holiness the imam's attorneys for the implemention of addendum 35 of the budget bill, in a message of condolence to the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the heart-wrenching occasion of the passing away of the great leader of the Islamic revolution, His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, have expressed their support for the selection of Ayatollah Khamene'i as the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The following is the text of the message:

In His exalted name. To the auspicious presence of his holiness, Ayatollah Haj Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran: We offer our greetings and respect and offer condolences on the heart-wrenching occasion of the passing away of the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic, His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, to the holy spirit of the lord of the ages, the family of that great man, to Your Excellency and to the martyr-nurturing nation of Iran as well as to the oppressed and deprived of the world. We thank the respected members of the Assembly of Experts for the selection of Your Excellency—who has a shining record of science and action, and who was a student trained by the imam of the ummah as well as one of those suffered in the oppression of the monarchist reign—as the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We announce our complete support and pray for your success in carrying out this great responsibility and to realizing the goals and aspirations of that great leader.

'Voice and Vision' Message

LD0706134389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The supervisory council and managing-director of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a message addressed to Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, declared their full obedience to his excellency's orders.

The message states: We offer our condolences on the calamity of the demise of the great figure of the Islamic ummah, the great leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, his holiness the Grand Ayatollah the Imam Khomeyni—may our souls be sacrificed for him—and express congratulations for the worthy appointment of Your Excellency by the Assembly of Experts as the leader of the Islamic Republic, and while fully supporting the decision and vote cast by the experts of the nation, we consider that complete obedience to the leader of the Islamic Republic is a religious duty and an Islamic mission for us. May God the Almighty, grant Your Excellency good health, and complete success in the fulfillment of the sacred aspirations of the Islamic revolution.

Papers Praise Khamene'i Appointment

LD0706153789 Tehran IRNA in English 1449 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 7, IRNA—The selection sunday of Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i as leader of the Islamic Republic has demonstrated the stability of the state, the Persian daily ABRAR said Wednesday.

"The wise selection," said the daily, "has assured supporters of the revolution and the Islamic Republic that the road led by the great (Imam Khomeyni) will be followed all the same, and the vow of allegiance to the new leader...by the masses is a good sign that conspiracies against the revolution will end in a fiasco."

The succession disproved hostile foreign propaganda which predicted total chaos in Iran after the death of Imam Khomeyni it said in an editorial.

Foreign enemies of the revolution and opponents of the Islamic state had waged a propaganda campaign suggesting that an inescapable "power struggle" in the wake of the imam's demise would pose the Islamic government with big obstacles, it observed.

But ABRAR saw the vow of allegiance to the new leader of the Islamic Republic by Imam Khomeyni's household is good proof of Imam Khomeyni's feelings towards the new leader of the Islamic Republic.

"In the words of the imam's son Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Khomeyni, the imam had repeatedly referred to Ayatollah Khamene'i as an indisputable mujtahid (qualified jurisprudent) and the best person to lead the Islamic government."

It said Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani's praising of Khamene'i's personality and the support given him by the cabinet, Council of Guardians, 'ulema, Armed Forces, leaders of Friday mass prayers and others is a token of the integration of the Islamic government.

The daily KEYHAN in an article Wednesday commended the verdict of the Assembly of Experts to choose Khamene'i as leader and said the quick action of its members had disproved predictions about confusion and power struggle in Iran after the imam.

It proposed that July 11, the 40th day after Imam Khomeyni's death, commonly observed as a mourning day in memory of the dead, be also celebrated as an occasion to reaffirm allegiance to the new leader of the Islamic Republic.

Khamene'i Meets Foreign Guests; Views Lebanon

NC0706102489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, granted separate audiences to representatives of foreign delegations who had come to Tehran to express condolences on the demise of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic, yesterday afternoon.

The Central News Unit reports that the Algerian president's special representative, the Libyan president's special representative, the Lebanese deputy prime minister, the commander of the UN peace-keeping forces on the Iran-Iraq border, the Indian foreign minister, the Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, the Qatari labor minister, the Omani justice minister, the UAE minister of religious endowments, the Bahraini minister of communications, and the Turkish minister of state for economic affairs, who had all come to Iran on behalf of their countries to attend the funeral of Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, were received by Ayatollah Khamene'i.

During these visits, which were also attended by foreign minister Mr Velayati and by Mr Mir Salim, adviser to the president, the representatives extended official condolences and informed Ayatollah Khamene'i of the sympathy of their countries' officials and people.

The report states that in his meeting with Ayatollah Khamene'i, the special representative from Algeria stated: We have come to Iran on behalf of the president, government, and people of Algeria, in order to express our condolences, support, and solidarity to the Iranian nation and to be beside you. He said: The world of Islam has truly lost a great man, but we are confident that despite this great tragedy, victory belongs to the Iranian nation and to the Muslims of the world.

According to the Central News Unit Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, referred to the critical Lebanese situation in his meeting with the Lebanese deputy prime minister and said: A great plot has been prepared against the Lebanese nation, and the only way to confront this plot is through the unity of all of Lebanon's forces. We decisively condemn any kind of division of Lebanon and consider it the greatest threat to the region. The leader of the Islamic Republic added: We are standing next to the Muslim and resistant Lebanese nation in the confrontation with the regime occupying Jerusalem, and we will continue Imam Khomeyni's line with all our strength.

The commander of the UN peace-keeping forces conveyed the UN secretary general's condolences on the demise of Ayatollah Khomeyni and delivered a written message from the UN secretary general to the leader of the Islamic Republic.

At the end of his meetings with the representatives of Algeria, Libya, Lebanon, India, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, UAE, Bahrain, and Turkey, and with the commander of the UN peace-keeping forces, Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, expressed his gratitude for the affectionate messages of sympathy from the heads of these states on the tragic loss of the imam of the ummah.

Velayati Receives Hizballah Leaders
NC0808075789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Members of the leadership council of the Lebanese Hizballah who were in Tehran to attend the funeral of Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, met with our foreign minister, Mr Velayati, yesterday afternoon and expressed their condolences to the officials and the Muslim nation of Iran.

The Central News Unit reports that during this meeting the leadership council of the Hizballah revolutionary movement delivered to the foreign minister a written message from the Hizballah leadership addressed to Ayatollah Khamene'i stating the Lebanese Hizballah's allegiance.

Mr Velayati then referred to the fact that the death of Imam Khomeyni is a great loss for the world of Islam and pointed out: The imam's revolutionary line of firm support for the struggles and resistance by the Muslim Lebanese people against the Zionist regime and world arrogance will always be followed by the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Central News Unit also reports that the delegation of the 'ulema of Jabal and of the Islamic resistance of Lebanon, as well as the delegation of the group of Muslim scholars of Lebanon and the Amal Movement delegation that have come to Iran to express condolences to the officials and people of our country, met Foreign Minister Velayati in separate meetings yesterday and expressed their and the Lebanese Muslims' condolences and sympathy to the Iranian Government, officials, and people.

Mr Velayati expressed thanks for the sympathy and solidarity of the Muslim Lebanese people and their presence in Lebanon, and pointed out: The tragedy of the demise of the great leader of the Islamic revolution is an irreparable tragedy for all the Muslims of the world. He added that the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue Imam Khomeyni's line in all fields very seriously and that it will continue its full support for the struggles by the combatant Lebanese forces to reestablish the rights of Muslims and to annihilate the regime occupying Jerusalem.

Japan's Foreign Minister Expresses Condolences
LD0706171789 Tehran IRNA in English 0625 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Tokyo, June 7, IRNA—Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, the Japanese foreign minister visited the Iranian Embassy in Tokyo on Tuesday evening and signed a condolence book and expressed his condolences on the occasion of the demise of the Islamic Republic leader Imam Khomeyni.

Mitsuzuka said that Japanese Dietman Masayuki Fujio will travel to Tehran to pay official condolences on the death of Iran's national and spiritual leader who passed away last Saturday.

Fujio, a member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and chairman of the Japan-Iran parliamentary organization will make a visit to Tehran very soon, according to Foreign Ministry officials.

Jewish Community Sends Message on Khomeyni
LD0706102189 Tehran IRNA in English 0847 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 7, IRNA—Jewish minority leaders sent condolence messages to Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i and the imam's son on the occasion of the demise of the Islamic revolution's leader.

Iranian Jewish comunity rabbi, Jewish deputy to the Majlis and Tehran Jewish Society in a joint message addressed to Ayatollah Khamene'i and the Iranian nation, expressed condolence over the sad demise of the founder of the Islamic Republic Imam Khomeyni.

They also congratulated the appointment of Khamene'i as the new leader of the country.

"May God help us in serving the dear Iranian nation in the Islamic Republic," the message said.

They also sent a separate message to Ahmad Khomeyni condoling the loss of his father.

There are 55,000 Jews living in Iran with one deputy in the Majlis.

Khamene'i Reads Last Part of Khomeyni's Will
LD0706160689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1109 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Third and last part of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's will read by President 'Ali Khamene'i at the 4 June meeting of the Assembly of Experts—recorded]

[Text] Nine: My admonition in this will to the groups and grouplets and to those individuals who are active in opposing the nation of the Islamic Republic and Islam is that first of all, their leaders—inside or outside the country—must be aware, given the length of their experiences, that no matter what their positions or what their

conspiracies may be, they cannot change the path of a sacrificing nation by resorting to terror, bombs, explosions, and baseless lies and slanders. No government or state can be overthrown by such illogical and inhumane methods, in particular a nation such as Iran, in which from its children to its elderly, everyone is involved in sacrificing their lives for the objectives of the Islamic Republic and for the sake of the Koran and religion. You must be well aware of that, and if you are not aware, you must be very simplistic. You must be aware that the nation and the Army are your enemies. Even if you think that they were once your friends, your rash endeavors and your crimes separated them from you. You managed only to create enemies for yourself.

As I come to end of my life, I give you this well-meaning advice that first, you have waged war and battled against a suffering nation which rid itself of the grip of 2,500 years of tyranical monarchy, the Pahlavi regime, and the Eastern or Western world devourers, by sacrificing its best children and youth. How can a human being—no matter how evil that person may be—allow himself to behave in such a way and have no mercy for the old or young of the nation, just so that he can attain a position of power? I admonish you to abandon these useless and unwise acts, and not be deceived by the world-devourers. Wherever you are, you must return to your homeland, if you have not committed any crime. Then you should repent, because God is indeed most compassionate and merciful. God willing, the Islamic Republic and the nation will also forgive you. Even if you have committed a crime [words indistinct] you can still return from a halfway point and repent. If you are brave, come and meet your punishments, and make yourselves eligible for God's mercy. Otherwise, no matter where you are, do not waste your life any further; instead indulge in some other kind of work which is in your interest.

Now I have an admonition for their sympathizers inside or outside the country. I ask them for what cause are they wasting their lives for those who have now proven to be involved in serving the powerful world-devourers and following their ways and methods? For whose sake are they confronting their nation? [words indistinct] If you are in Iran, you must be aware that the masses of millions of people are loyal to the Islamic Republic for which they sacrifice their lives. You must see that the present government and regime are using all their abilities to serve the people. Those who falsely claim to be popular strugglers must be aware that they have waged a campaign of enmity against the people of God. You are playing around with simple-minded boys and girls, manipulating them for your inauspicious objectives, which are in line with those of the world-devourers. [passage indistinct] You drag the youth to their death.

My admonition to you, the young people, is that you must return from your erroneous path and join society's deprived strata, who are serving the Islamic Republic with their lives. You must strive to create an independent and free Iran, so that the country and nation may get rid of its opponents. We must all continue to live a proud life. Why are you listening to the orders of those who think only of themselves, who follow all the superpowers, who have waged a battle against their nation, and who are sacrificing you for their own power-mongering and inauspicious objectives? During the years that have passed since the victory of the Islamic revolution, you must have realized that their claims and words are in total contradiction with their acts. Their claims and words are meant only to deceive the simple-minded youth. You must know that you have no power in the face of the nation's power to sacrifice, and that your acts will only harm yourselves and waste your own lives [words indistinct] I hope you heed this admonition, which will be conveyed to you after my death, and which does not stem from love of power, and that you manage to save yourselves from the grip of evil. May God give you assistance and guidance, guiding you to the righteous path.

My advice in this bill to those inclined toward the left, the communists, the Fedayi-e Khalq, and other leftist groups, is that for what reason you—without any correct revision of schools of thought and the school of Islam and without consultation with those who are knowledgable about schools of thought, in particular the school of Islam—manage to satisfy yourselves, to fall victim to a school of thought which has suffered defeat in today's world? [words indistinct] What incentive caused you to seek to throw your country into the grip of the Soviet Union and China, to wage battle against your nation under the pretext of love for the masses, and to become involved in conspiracies whose goal was the domination of foreigners over the oppressed masses?

You can see that from the very beginning of the founding of communism, its adherents have been the most dictatorial and powermongering states on the globe. So many nations were stampeded and crushed to destruction under the feet of the Soviet Union, which claimed to be the champion of the masses. The nation of Russia, Muslim or non-Muslim, is struggling hard under the grip of the Communist Party's dictatorial pressure, while deprived of all kinds of freedoms, living under an oppression much greater than that imposed by the world's other dictators.

You witnessed Stalin—supposedly a distinguished party figure—his aristocracy and his affliction, with ceremony and protocol. Right now, you decieved ones lose your lives for your love of that regime. The oppressed people of the Soviet Union and its satellites, such as Afghanistan, are dying because of its ruthlessness. Then you, who claim to champion the cause of the masses, have committed such great crimes against the deprived masses, wherever you have managed. What a crime you committed in sending the people of Amol—who you erroneously introduced as your staunch supporters—to a battle against the people and the government, causing their death! Claiming to support the deprived masses, you seek to throw the deprived and oppressed people of Iran

into the grip of Soviet dictatorship. You are carrying out such an act of treason under the guise of being a Fedayi-e Khalq and the champion of the people and the deprived. Furthermore, the Tudeh party and its comrades, through conspiracies and under the mask of support for the Islamic Republic, are (?intent) on terror and destruction.

I admonish you members of groups whether inclined toward the left, although some evidence and documents show that these are U.S. communists or those who are inspired and paid by the West, or those who take up weapons under the pretext of supporting the autonomy of the Kurdish or Baluch peoples, thereby depriving them of their livelihoods preventing the cultural, medical, economic, and reconstruction aid of the Islamic government to those provinces—groups such as the Kurdish Democratic Party or Kumeleh—to join the ranks of the nation. So far they have done nothing but make the people of those regions suffer, and they are incapable of doing anything else. Therefore, their interests and those of their nation and their regions is that they should cooperate with the government and stop betraying their nation through collaboration with foreigners. They must be assured that Islam is better for them than the criminal camp of the West or the dictatorial camp of the East. Islam provides a much better model.

My advice in this will to Muslim groups—who have erroneously become inclined toward the West or possibly East, and who sometimes supported the hypocrites, whose treason has now been proven, and who sometimes rejected and disowned Islam and [words indistinct]—is that they should not persist in their mistakes. They should resort to bravery and Islamic honesty and come forward, confessing to their mistakes and thereby joining the ranks of the people and the government and help the history's deprived masses to free themselves from the grip of arrogance.

We must remember the deceased Modarres' words that committed, purehearted, pureminded clergy—who, commenting on the depressed mood of the Majlis in those days, said: Now that we must be destroyed, why should our destruction take place by our own hands?

Today, in memory of that martyr on the path of God, I would like to say to you, faithful brothers, that it is better for us to be destroyed by the criminal hands of the United States and the Soviet Union and to meet our God with honor and pride than to live in a comfortable and aristocratic fashion under the emblem of the red or (?green) armies. This view has always been the way of the prophets, imams, and the guardians of the faith; and we must follow that path. We must make ourselves believe that a nation is capable of living without dependence, if it wants to; and that the powerful ones in the world cannot impose anything on them that is contrary to their ideals. Lessons must be learned from Afghanistan, in which the leftist parties and the usurper state are allied with the Soviet Union, yet the masses of people have not been silenced. In addition to that, now the deprived masses of the world have become awakened. Before long this state of alertness will lead to uprisings, movements, and revolutions, and the people will rid themselves of the grip of tyrants and arrogant powers. You Muslims, who have faith in Islamic values, can see that separation and distance from the East and West are already producing blessings, and ingenious thinking brains have started working, moving toward the point of self-sufficiency. What was once [words indistinct] shown to our nation as impossible is now being carried out by the nations minds and hands. God willing, more will be carried out in the long-term.

What a pity it is that this revolution materialized so late, and that it did not happen at the beginning of the filthy reign of Mohammad Reza. If that had happened the Iran of today would be different.

My admonition in this will to the authors, orators, intellectuals, pedantic objectors [eshkal tarashan] and those with chips on their shoulders [saheban-e 'oqdeh], is that you should talk to your God more, instead of spending your time moving against the direction of the Islamic Republic and using all your abilities to indulge in pessimism and expressing unkind words about the Majlis, the government, and other servants. By these acts you are pushing the country toward the superpowers. If you do not believe in God, then talk to your consciences, and try to analyze your feelings. Try to find out for what incentive and by what criteria you are neglecting all these (?disabled) youth in cities and on the front lines. Try to find out the reason you are (?confronting) a nation which seeks to rid itself from the domination of domestic and foreign plunderers and which seeks to attain freedom and independence through sacrificing the lives of its beloved children. That you are creating confusion and trecherous plots, paving the way for the arrogant tyrants. Is it not better that with your pens and tongues and thoughts you should guide the Majlis, the government, and the nation for the sake of safeguarding your nation? Is it not better that you should be helping this oppressed and deprived nation, and through your assistance try to strengthen the Islamic government? Do you view the Majlis, this president, government, and the judicial apparatus as worse than what we had during the past regime? Have you forgotten all the tyranny that the Pahlavi regime imposed on this nation? Are you not aware that the Islamic homeland at the time was a military base for the United States, and it was treated as [word indistinct], and that they [the United States] had the Majlis, the government, and the Armed Forces under their control? Are you not aware of what the military advisors and plunderers did to the country's resources? Have you forgotton about the spread of corruption and decadance throughout the country, and about all the centers of corruption—be they gambling venues or brothels or liquor stores, cinemas and other centers—each of which alone were enough to draw the youth to destruction? Have you forgotten about the mass media, the corrupt magazines and newspapers of that regime? [passage indistinct] Are you joining forces with those

who clearly condemn Islam, wage an armed struggle against it—or who wage a battle against it with their tongues and pens. [passage indistinct] Do you call those, the shedding of whose blood has been sanctioned by God, as the light of your eyes? Do you stand by those who constantly create tragedies by crushing innocent people, while you shout in objection when the government and the judiciary act according to Islam in punishing the monafeqin [hypocrites] , the atheists, and the deviants?

I feel sorry for you brothers, those of you whose past records I am aware of to some extent and I am fond of some of you. I do not feel sorry for those who were bandits under the cloak of benevolence, wolves disguised as shepherds, and actors who ridiculed everyone, with the intention of ruining the country, the nation, and those who serve them, by dragging them toward one of the two plundering poles; those who, with their filthy hands martyred the valuable youths, men, and lofty 'ulema, these instructors of society, and had no mercy upon innocent children, old men, and women. They disgraced themselves in society and were rejected by almighty God. They blocked their own return routes and the Satan of selfish desires is ruling over them.

Why do you, sincere brothers, not assist the government and the Majlis which are trying to serve the meek, the oppresssed, and downtrodden masses who are deprived of all of life's gifts? Why are you complaining? Is it fair to compare the achievements of this government and organs of the Republic, amid all these problems and shortages—which are inevitable in every revolution—in the midst of the imposed war with all those losses, millions of domestic homeless and foreign refugees, and countless cases of betrayal, in this short time, with the development achieved during the era of the former regime? Do you not realize that almost all development projects of that period were concentrated in the cities, particularly the wealthy suburbs? The poor and the deprived people had very little share, if any, of this progress. The present government and the Islamic organs are striving to serve this deprived strata wholeheartedly. You, the believers, should support the government so that the works are performed faster and you will attain the presence of God—an inevitable end for all of us—and the medal of good service to his slaves.

It appears that a part of the will is torn off. His holiness has written: I tore this part myself and has signed under it.

One of the matters which requires explanation and recommendation is this: Islam is not in favor of amassing great wealth at the expense of depriving the meek and oppressed masses, rather it strongly condemns it in the Koran and sunnah [sayings attributed to the prophet] and considers it against social justice. Nevertheless, some biased individuals who are ignorant of the principles of the Islamic regime and the political issues ruling in Islam have pretended in their speeches and written works that Islam is in favor of amassing unlimited wealth and property. Thanks to their incorrect understanding of Islam they have tarnished the shining face of Islam and have opened the way to the enemies of Islam and prejudiced individuals to attack Islam and depict it as being similar to the capitalist systems of the world, the same as the United States, Britain, and other plunderers of the West. By referring to the statements of these ignorant individuals, some people knowingly or unknowingly have not contacted true experts on Islam and have opposed Islam.

Nor is Islam a regime similar to communism and Marxism-Leninism, which are against private ownership and believe in common ownership—with some changes in various periods when they have even recommended common ownership of women and homosexuality—and have been characterized by dictatorship and crushing depotism. Islam is rather a moderate system which approves and respects the right of ownership, acquiring property, and spending wealth, which if performed properly oil the wheels of a healthy economy and bring about social justice, a necessity in a healthy regime.

Here, too, a group of people, through their misunderstanding or ignorance of Islam and its healthy economy, are placed in the opposite camp to the first group; and at the same time, by relying on some verses or sentences of the "Nahj al-Balagha" [a book attributed to Imam 'Ali], they have described these sentences as being in keeping with the deviated Marxist ideology or such like it. They have not paid any attention to other Koranic verses or passages in the "Nahj al-Balagha," and on their own and on the basis of their limited understanding they have risen up and are propagating communist ideology; they are supporting blasphemy, dictatorship, and crushing oppression which ignore human values, and a minority party deals with other human beings like animals.

My parting advice to the Majlis, the Council of Guardians, the government, the president, and the Supreme Judicial Council is to submit to the teachings of God Almighty and not to be influenced by the hollow propaganda of the cruel and plundering capitalist bloc or the blasphemous communist bloc. They should respect legitimate ownership and capital within Islamic limits. You should assure the people so that they use their capital and their constructive activities, and enable the government and country to achieve self-sufficiency in light and heavy weapons.

I also advise the rich and wealthy individuals who have amassed their wealth through legitimate means to make use of their wealth to engage in constructive activities in farms, villages, and factories, because this in itself is a valuable form of worship. I also advise all to work for the well-being of the deprived classes; because your well-being in this world and in the next depends on caring for the deprived people of society who, throughout the monarchial and feudal period have been subjected to hardship and sufferings. How wonderful it would be if the wealthy classes would voluntarily provide mosques

and the means of well-being for those who are living in slums. They should be certain that their well-being in this world and in the next lies in this. It is far from justice that one person does not possess any shelter, while another person has an apartment.

My parting advice to that group of clergymen or pseudoclergy who, due to different motivations, are opposing the Islamic Republic and its organizations and who spend their time in trying to topple it, and who assist the conspiratorial opponents and political manipulators and at times, it is reported, spend vast sums of money which they receive from ungodly capitalists for their purpose, is that so far you have not achieved anything by such evil deeds and I do not believe that you will achieve anything in the future. If you have engaged in such deeds for the sake of this world—and God will not allow you to achieve your evil aims—it would be better for you to repent while you still have the chance, and to ask forgiveness from God almighty. Join your voices to that of this poor and wronged nation, and support the Islamic Republic which has been established as the results of the nation's self-sarifice. This will ensure your well-being in this world and the next, although I do not believe that you will repent.

As for those who oppose the principle of the Islamic Republic, motivated deliberately or otherwise by misjudged assumptions and mistakes—assumptions issued by various personalities or groups against Islam—and as for those who aim to overthrow that regime for the sake of God and who assume this republic is worse than the monarchy, they should compare it with the previous regime in a spirit of fairness and good faith when they are alone. They should pay attention to the fact that in the world revolutions incidence of chaos and wrong doing and opportunism is inevitable. If you pause to pay attention, you may bring to mind the difficulties of the Islamic Republic—difficulties such as plots and wrong propaganda, armed attacks from outside and inside, inevitable infiltration of groups from corrupt elements and opponents of Islam in all government organs with the intent to make people discontented with Islam and Islamic rule, and the fact of most responsible authorities being inexperienced as well as rumormongering by those who could no longer indulge in illegal profits or those whose interests had diminished and who attributed their situation to great economic problems or to inefficiency or to a shortage of competent and expert people and many other things. These are a few of tens of other difficulties of which one will remain unaware unless one is in the thick of things.

On the other hand, there are individuals with ill intentions as well as monarchists and major capitalists who bring unbearable pressure on the needy in the society to the extent of their destruction and who corrupt the society through profiteering, usury, transfer of foreign exchange and hoarding, smuggling and extreme overcharging. Yet, they come to you gentlemen to complain and to deceive you. Sometimes they also pay some money ostensibly as the share [of the imam in profits] to show themselves off as Muslims; they sometimes shed crocodile tears to make you angry to prompt you to oppose [the regime]. Many of them suck the people's blood through their illegitimate profits. They destroy the country's economy. I humbly offer a brotherly piece of advice that the honorable gentlemen should not allow themselves to be influenced by such rumormongering. For the sake of God, and in an effort to preserve Islam [I ask you] to strengthen this Republic. The gentlemen must know that if this Islamic Republic is defeated it will not be replaced by another Islamic Republic as wished by the hidden imam or one which would carry out the orders of your gentlemen. Rather, a regime would rise to power which would be what one of the two superpowers likes to have. Then the deprived of the world who have turned to Islam and Islamic government will be disheartened. Then Islam would be isolated forever. One day you will be repentent for what you have done and that will be a day when what should not happen will happen; in that case it is no use to be sorry.

If you gentlemen expect that all affairs to develop according to Islam and God's instructions overnight then you are mistaken. Such a miracle has not happened through all the history of humanity and will not take place in the future.

Do not believe that the day when the greatest of reformers [the hidden imam] appears, suddenly miracles will happen and all the world will be reformed in a single day. Rather, tyrants would be punished and isolated through efforts and sacrifices.

If, like some perverted laymen, you believe that for the appearance of that great man [the hidden imam] efforts must be directed at the realization of infidelity and oppression—so that the world might be engulfed in injustice in preparation for his appearance—then we are from him and we return to him. [latter phrase in Arabic]

Three. I bequeath to all the Muslims and the meek of the world that you should not sit down to wait for your rulers and officials, or for foreign powers, to come to bring to you independence and freedom as a gift. You and we, at least during the last 100 years during which the superpowers and world devourers have found their way to the Islamic and small countries, have witnessed—or we have read in correct history books—that none of the governments ruling over those countries has ever been thinking of the freedom, independence, and welfare of their own nations. Rather, the majority of them, indeed almost all of them, have either done everything for their own interests, through oppressing their own nations or whatever they have done, has been for personal and group interests or for the welfare of the advantaged class.

The victimized classes living in slums have been denied all the blessings of life, even water, bread, and a meagre diet. They have used those unfortunates for the interests of the well-off and permissive class. Or else, they have been

stooges of the superpowers who have employed all their power to make the countries and nations dependent on the superpowers. They have done their best to use various tricks to turn the country into a market for the East and West where the interests of the superpowers have been met. And they have thus driven the nations into backwardness and afflicted them with consumerism.

Now they are moving along that design; you the meek of the world, you the Islamic countries and world Muslims, rise up. Grab what is yours by right through nails and teeth. And do not fear the propaganda glare of the superpowers and their sworn stooges. Drive out the criminal rulers who surrender your toils to the enemies of Islam. Take charge of the affairs with your own hands and the hands of the committed serving classes. All of you rally under the proud banner of Islam to defend yourselves against the enemies of Islam and the meek of the world. And march towards an Islamic government with free and independent republics. Once you realize such a goal, you will push all the arrogant of the world to their own corners; and you will enable all the meek of the world to inherit imamate and justice, hoping for such a day which the exalted God has promised us.

Four. Once again at the end of this will and testament, I bequeath to the noble nation of Iran the maxim that in the world, the capacity to endure troubles, deprivations, sacrifices, self-denial, and efforts is proportionate to the greatness of the objective and its value. The objective that your noble nation seeks and for which you sacrifice your life and property is the highest, most valued, and most precious objective—it is the destined objective more valuable than anything else that has been presented since creation and until the end of time. And that is the divine school in its wide sense. It is the idea of monotheism with its lofty dimensions. It is the essence of creation; it reaches the vastness of existence and the higher levels of that which cannot be seen and that which can be witnessed, which has been epitomized in the Mohamadan school, peace be upon him and his scion, in all its dimensions, in all degrees, and in every meaning, and which all the great prophets and men of God, greetings on them, had sought. The point of absolute perfection and infinite glory and beauty—which cannot be possible—is where God placed human beings above the angels and those who are preferred to angels. And what is available to the human beings is not available to anybody through the creation, whether hidden or obvious.

You struggling nation, you are marching under a flag which is hoisted all over the world—the temporal and spiritual world. Whether you find it or not, you march on a path which is the only path for all the prophets, peace be upon them, and which is the only path to absolute happiness. All the prophets embraced martyrdom to attain that path. It is for that goal that they regard crimson death as sweeter than honey. Your youths have tasted a mouthful of that at the front line and have been exalted by it. Its glory has been evident to their mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters. We must rightly say that may such a beautiful breeze and glory be right for them. We must know that a share of that glory is evident to the burning farmlands, exhausting factories, workshops, and industrial centers, centers of invention, and to the majority of the nation in the streets and bazaars and villages, and to all those who hold a position for Islam or the Islamic Republic and worked to achieve self-sufficiency in the country. So long as such a spirit of cooperation and commitment rules over the society, the dear country will be immune to world dangers—may God so will.

Thank God that seminaries, universities, and dear youths in the educational centers are having a share in this divine glory. These centers are exclusively at their disposal. God willing, the hands of the corrupt and the perverted are cut off from them. I bequeath to all to remember God and thus push toward self-awareness, self-sufficiency, and independence in all dimensions. Doubtless, God's hand is with you if you are in His service, continuing the spirit of cooperation for the progress of the Islamic country.

Seeing in the dear nation the degree of awareness and commitment as well as self-sacrifice, spirit of resistence, and steadfastness towards righteousness, I am fully hopeful that, God willing, these virtues of humanity will be passed on to the next generations and they will increase from one generation to another. Therefore, with God's blessing, I bade farewell to dear sisters and brothers with a calm heart, a happy soul, and a mind full of hope in God's blessings. And thus I shall travel to the eternal resting place. I have dire need for your good prayers. [sounds of weeping] I beseech the kind God to accept my apologies for having failed in my duty, and to accept my shortages and faults. I hope the nation will accept my apology for my failures and shortcomings, and will march ahead in a determined bid. The nation must know that the departure of a servant shall not dent the steel will of the nation. More honorable servants are at your service. May God preserve this nation and the victimized peoples of the world.

At the bottom of this will and testament, which is 29 pages, as well as a prologue, he [Khomeyni] has made a few extra points. I should explain to the gentlemen that the will and testament itself is 29 pages long, the prologue was 5 pages, which was read out loud. Without exception, the imam has signed every page, too, at the bottom of the page. At the end of it, he has added the following. Now let us read it and see what it is about.

Page 30. In His Exalted name. At the end of this 29-page-long will and introduction, I will explain a few points.

1. Even now while I am alive, some false allegations are being made concerning me. [sounds of mass weeping] It is possible that they may grow in volume after me. Therefore, I should say that the allegations that have

been made regarding me or will be made are not acceptable, unless it is in my own voice, or in my own writing and with my signature with the confirmation of the experts, or is what I have said on television in the Islamic Republic.

2. During my lifetime, certain individuals have claimed that they used to write my announcements. I strongly deny this allegation. So far, none of my announcements have been prepared by anyone except by myself personally.

3. According to rumors, certain people have claimed that they have been responsible for me going to Paris. This is a lie. After I was turned back from Kuwait [after leaving Iraq on the orders of the Iraqi Government at the instigation of the late shah, Khomeyni applied for and was given a visa for Kuwait, but was denied entry] I chose Paris after consulting with Ahmad [Khomeyni's son], because there was the possibility of not being admitted to the Islamic countries. They were under the influence of the shah, but this probability did not exist in Paris.

4. In the course of the Islamic movement and the revolution, due to the hypocrisy and Islamic pretentions of certain individuals, I have made mention of certain individuals and have praised them. Later, I discovered that I had been deceived due to their deceit. Those praises were at a time when they pretended to be committed and faithful to the Islamic Republic. These praises should not be misused. Each person is judged by his present condition.

On the bottom of this part too, he has signed Ruhollah al-Musavi al-Khomeyni. [chants of "God is great" and sounds of weeping]

Second Copy of Khomeyni's Will To Be Opened

LD0706204389 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., June 7, IRNA—The original copy of Imam Khomeyni's testament will be preserved here in the treasury of the holy shrine of Imam Reza (A.S.), the 8th imam of Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) [peace be upon him] household, it was announced Tuesday.

Imam Khomeyni's representative and superintendent of Imam Reza's holy shrine, Hojjat ol-Eslam Va'ez Tabbasi said in remarks at the end of the imam's mourning ceremony Tuesday, that the second copy of the imam's will, with his own handwriting, will be unsealed in the presence of religious and political figures. It will be saved in the library of the treasury as a precious and historical document, he noted.

Imam Khomeyni wrote his will in two copies in 1982 and revised it in December 1987. Upon his order, both copies were sealed off, one handed to the Assembly of Experts and the other sent to Imam Reza's treasury.

Imam Reza's treasury is a rare Islamic museum in which Islamic documents including many gold-ornameted manuscrips of holy Koran as well as coins, gold arms and other objects belonging to the Islamic era are deposited.

Pakistan

Commentary Praises Outcome of Bush-Bhutto Talks

BK0806061789 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Syed Nazir Bukhari commentary]

[Text] The warm welcome that the prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, has received in the United States as an honored guest and a democratically elected leader as well as the productive talks she has had with President Bush amply indicate that the present visit is going to be very successful. On the first day of the visit, Pakistan and the United States signed two aid agreements worth millions of dollars for promoting primary education and assisting housing projects in Pakistan. Reports emanating from knowledgeable sources also say that an agreement to sell Pakistan 60 F-16 fighters may also be approved during the present visit. The United States Defense Department has already notified approval for the sale of $68 million worth of torpedoes and antiaircraft missiles to Pakistan.

One gathers from the reception and the cordial nature of the bilateral talks that the American leadership is giving full weight and importance to the new democratic experiment in Pakistan and is determined to give its full support to make it a success. Therefore, yesterday when President Bush spoke at the welcoming ceremony for Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto, he paid her glowing tributes for her commitment and struggle for democracy. For him the visit marks an occasion to celebrate and renew the ties of friendship with democratic Pakistan. President Bush said that the historic relationship between the two countries was now newly forged on the anvil of democracy. He described Benazir Bhutto as a woman of great personal courage and faith, a wise leader, and a living symbol of those who give all for democracy.

The prime minister of Pakistan has also been stressing the theme of democracy during the visit, and immediately after arriving in the United States she made it a point to mention that she was proud that she was a democratically elected woman prime minister of a Muslim Pakistan.

The American people love the idea that their traditional friend Pakistan is now fully democratized. The development also influenced the atmosphere of the talks which were held between President Bush and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. The talks went on smoothly and this fact was reflected in the briefings the two leaders gave to the press. The briefings indicated the leaders of Pakistan and the United States had [word indistinct] agreed on almost all the issues they discussed. They reviewed the situation in Afghanistan and agreed that in spite of the withdrawal

of soviet troops from Afghanistan, the issue still needed to be fully resolved. The mujahidin needed to be supported until the goal of establishing a nonaligned government to replace the illegitimate regime in Kabul was achieved. The Afghan people must be enabled to choose their government without any outside interference.

In the talks it also appeared that the United States supported Pakistan's initiatives to promote peace with its neighbor India and achieve normalization of relations in the region.

On the nuclear issue, President Bush was satisfied with the prime minister's assurances regarding the peaceful nature of Pakistan's nuclear program.

The sincere and determined efforts of the government of Pakistan for controlling the drug menace has publicly been acclaimed by the United States.

During the visit, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is also calling for a new partnership with the United States bonded in democracy and emphasizing new priorities. She would discuss with U.S. leaders how together as partners they can take their relationship and their people into the 21st century. The prime minister of Pakistan is also emphasizing the new challenges confronting the two countries in the closing and complex stages of the Afghanistan war at a time when Pakistan wants to focus its attention on economic and social needs.

Spokesman on Afghanistan, Soviet POW's, PRC
BK0706163289 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Pakistan has reiterated its stand on Afghanistan that it wants a political solution of the issue acceptable to all strata of the Afghan society and return of the Afghan refugees voluntarily to their homeland with honor and dignity. A Foreign Office spokesman briefing newsmen in Islamabad today, categorically denied press reports that Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has had a meeting with former King Zahir Shah in Rome recently. No such meeting took place, he added.

Referring to talks between the Soviet Union and Afghan mujahidin on the release of Soviet POW's, he said as it is a humanitarian issue, we are assisting those parties to find a workable solution. In this connection, he said, Soviet delegation consisting of mothers of POW's is to visit Islamabad this month or early next month to have more talks with Afghan mujahidin.

On reduction of defense expenditure by Pakistan and India, the spokesman said despite Pakistan's proposal to India, no positive response has so far been received. He said, in the recent past, some qualitative new weapon systems have been introduced in the region, which is a matter of concern. In this connection, he mentioned the testing of Agni and Trishul missiles by India, which he said may lead to arms race in the region.

On recent happenings in China, the spokesman reiterated Pakistan's policy of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries and hoped that things there would soon be settled peacefully.

Talks With India on Maritime Boundary Conclude
BK0206162289 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 2 Jun 89

[Text] The 5-day talks between Pakistan and India on demarcation of their boundary in the Sir Creek area as well as the maritime boundary concluded in Islamabad today. Both sides explained their points of view on the demarcation of the boundary and agreed to meet again in New Delhi at a mutually convenient date. The delegations at the talks were led by the surveyors general of the two countries.

Political Party To Merge With Ruling People's Party
BK0206032989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Jun 89

[Text] The chairman of Tehrik-i Istiqlal Party of Britain, Zaharuddin Butt, called on the chairpersons of the Pakistan People's Party [PPP], Nusrat Bhutto, in Rawalpindi yesterday and has announced the decision of all the office-bearers of his party to join the PPP. He said, we have strong faith in democracy and we believe that Pakistan will be able to overcome all its problems under the leadership of Begum Nusrat Bhutto and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

ANP Announces Split With Pakistan People's Party
BK0806024489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] The chief of the Awami National Party [ANP], Khan Abdul Wali Khan, has said that his party has decided to end ties with the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] at provincial level. Talking informally with newsmen in Islamabad yesterday, he repeated the accusation that the Pakistan People's Party has gone back on its pledge to appoint ANP governor in the Northwest Frontier Province.

Army Called in Sind Town Following Violence
BK0806024389 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate of Thatta last night says that about 300 persons blocked the national highway in Sujawal yesterday demanding the release of persons against whom a first information report had been filed. In spite of assurances of (?lenient) action, the crowd refused to disperse. Police cleared the highway through the use of light tear gas. Meanwhile, four to five persons riding a jeep fired on a police party as a result of which a police constable was killed and seven other police personnel were injured. The press note adds that the persons who fired have been identified and some arrests have been made.

The Army has been called in to assist the civil administration, which is patrolling the town and carrying out searches.

2 Policemen, 2 Others Killed in Clashes

BK0806094289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0900 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Four persons died and seven were seriously injured during a police operation to restore traffic on G.T. Road, a few miles away from Bannu. All injured persons have been admitted to the Bannu District Headquarters Hospital.

According to details, a large number of the (Wazir) tribe, who were armed with modern weapons, blocked a truck. They were demanding that they should be employed in all posts of the ongoing Bannu township scheme in their area. They also demanded the release of their (?chief). The tribes kept the road closed for nearly 15 hours and fired at local police, killing two constables on the spot and injuring four others, including the police station house officer. Later, the law enforcement agencies took action against them and succeeded in restoring traffic on the road. Two tribals were also killed on the spot and three seriously injured in the clashes.

4 Major Generals Promoted to Lieutenant General

BK0406143989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Text] According to an announcement of the general headquarters in Rawalpindi today, four major generals of the Pakistan Army have been promoted to the rank of lieutenant general. They are: Lieutenant General Hamed Niaz, Lt Gen Farooq Khan, Lt Gen (M.R.S. Bangas), and Lt Gen Abdul Wahid.

Joint Task Force Planned To Combat Drug Traffic

BK0306063889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] The Federal Government has decided to set up a new joint task force comprising 500 personnel to combat narcotics smuggling. This was stated by the minister of state for narcotics control, Mian Muzaffar Shah, at a news conference in Islamabad last evening. He said the International Narcotics Control Board will provide $5 million for the rehabilitation of drug addicts in the country.

Government To Fulfill Loan Repayment Commitments

BK0506030389 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Text] The Pakistan Government would fulfill all its international commitments regarding repayment of foreign loans and would not ask for moratorium or rescheduling. This was stated by the minister of state for finance, Mr Ehsanul Haq Piracha, at the post-budget news conference in Islamabad today. He said Pakistan would avail itself of only those relaxations on foreign loans which could be extended by the donor countries and agencies by themselves.

He said an investment of 1.5 billion to 2 billion rupees is expected from the new facility to covert black money [undeclared earnings] into white [declared earnings] as announced in the new national budget. Any amount can be invested by paying 10 percent of the investment as a tax. Mr Ehsanul Haq Piracha said that the dividend income has been taxed beyond 15,000 rupees. The measure would not adversely affect investments and dividends because the tax is only 7.5 percent of such income.

The minister of state (?referred) to the steps taken by the government for the benefit of the people despite austerity measures. These include loans to small farmers on easy terms, continuation of the flat rate system for agricultural tubewells and crop insurance. Provincial governments have been advised to exempt subsistence holdings from abyana [water tax].

Replying to a question, he announced the government's intention to restructure the entire taxation structure in the country in consultation with various chambers and other bodies.

About employment, Mr Ehsanul Haq Piracha said nearly 7.5 lakh persons would be provided employment during the coming financial year.

Economic Survey Expects 5.1 Percent Growth

BK0106093589 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Jun 89

[All figures as heard]

[Text] The economic survey of the outgoing financial year issued in Islamabad this morning estimates that the economy is expected to register an overall growth rate of 5.1 percent against the target of 6.9 percent and the actual growth of 6.2 percent achieved last year. It described the overall growth as satisfactory in view of the political uncertainties, the disturbances in Karachi and Hyderabad, which disrupted production, and unusual floods in Punjab and Sind in September.

The survey says that the agriculture with 6.1 percent growth against last year's 2.7 percent recovered significantly, mainly due to 13.6 percent increase in the production of wheat, 2.1 percent in sugar cane, and 57 percent in grams. Other major crops, namely rice and cotton, registered slightly lower production.

In the energy sector, the commercial energy supply increased by about 8 percent over the corresponding period of last year with the highest share—that is, over 39 percent—claimed by (?oil), followed by gas with about 35 percent. Production of crude oil increased to 51 percent—1,000 barrels per day in March this year. [sentence as heard] The production of gas rose by 2.5 percent and of electricity by 7.8. Over 28,000 villages were electrified by the end of March.

In the social sector, the economic survey notes that the [word indistinct] continued to suffer from past neglect. Noting that the estimated literacy rate was only 30 percent, total expenditure on education 2.7 percent, and in health 0.9—2 percent of GNP [Gross National Product]—it says the federal government is conscious of this dismal outlook and is committed to rectify this by launching a comprehensive health plan, an education program, and a housing policy.

Sri Lanka

Premadasa Underlines Need for Indian Withdrawal

BK0706131289 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The government parliamentary group has unanimously welcomed the request made by President Premadasa to the Indian Government in accordance with the UNP [United National Party] manifesto to expedite the withdrawal of the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] from Sri Lanka. The motion in this regard was moved by State Minister for Foreign Affairs John Amaratunge and seconded by Buddhika Kurukura Ratna, MP [Member of Parliament] for the Galle District. Moving the motion, Mr Amaratunge hailed the president for taking this timely measure. He declared that it was high time that the IPKF moves out in the interest of both countries.

Mr Buddhika Kurukura Ratna, in seconding the motion said it was unfortunate that a foreign army had to be invited to our sovereign state, which degraded the independence of the country.

Minister of Higher Education, Science, and Technology Shahul Hameed said that the president had been specific in stating that what we were asking was to expedite the withdrawal of the Indian troops and this would clear any misunderstanding some might have.

A.H.M. Aswa, MP, said that the Mu lims were happy and thankful to the president for asking the withdrawal of the Indian troops.

Deputy Speaker Gamini Fonseka said that with the return of the troops, they have to ensure the return of the arms as well, lest they go into unauthorized hands. There is a campaign to rouse anti-Indian feelings by certain sections. Therefore, he said, the government should take firm action against these elements, as their intention was to create chaos and engineer another foreign invasion.

Ranjan Wijeratne, minister of foreign affairs and state minister for defense, said that the [words indistinct] attempts to rouse anti-Indian feeling. These attempts are within this country and outside and may be state-managed to engineer such a step. The government has taken every step to safeguard the interests of all sections of the people. President Premadasa thanked the group for adopting a resolution. He said that the UNP election manifesto was specific on this matter. The manifesto stated that if by the time the UNP candidate is elected president the IPKF have not left, the new president will ensure that they are withdrawn. This meant that the party was clear in regard to this matter even before the elections. However, after he took office, the Indian high commissioner told him that they had noted the pledge given in the election manifesto and the Indian Government would like to withdraw the Indian troops in stages. It is presumed that 7,000 to 8,000 troops have left up to now. The president said that he should appreciate the action of the Indian Government for commencing to withdraw the troops even before he had made a request. On 2 July, 6 months would have passed since he assumed office as president and at the end of July it would also make 2 years since the IPKF came to Sri Lanka.

The president said that they have to admit that certain aims envisaged in the Indo-Sri Lanka accord had not materialized. According to it, emergency in the north and east should have been withdrawn by the 15 August 1987. But it was withdrawn after he became president. Another provision in the accord was that within 48 hours of the signing of the accord, there would be a cessation of hostilities throughout the country and all arms held by militant groups would be surrendered to designated officers. Consequent to cessation of hostilities and surrendering of arms, only the Sri Lanka Armed Forces personnel would be confined to barracks. It is now well known that what was envisaged in the accord did not take place except that the Sri Lanka Armed Forces personnel were confined to barracks. The president said that the pledge to call for the withdrawal of the IPKF was once placed before the people at the voting box and a mandate had been given to implement that pledge. Another reason for asking the IPKF to withdraw by the end of July was that Sri Lanka would be hosting the next SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit conference in November. As a self-respecting nation, he said, they could not host the summit with the presence of a foreign force in the country. The president said that the request for the withdrawal of the troops has already been intimated to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi by the secretary to the minister of foreign affairs, Bernard Tilakaratna. The Sri Lankan Government has requested that the IPKF troops be withdrawn as far as possible by the end of July this year.

The president said it was wrong for anyone to say that the withdrawal of the IPKF is a violation of the Indo-Sri Lankan accord. The accord states that it is on the invitation of the president of Sri Lanka that Indian military assistance will be given and also leave at the request of the president of Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka has made that request now. Some have said that peace will suffer after the IPKF withdrawal. The president asked whether the desired peace has come with their [IPKF] presence in the country for 2 years and what more harm would come if they leave. Vast sections of the people want the IPKF to leave. We must solve our problems amongst ourselves, he said.

2.5 Kg Heroin From Madras Seized at Airport

BK0506131589 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] A 24-year-old Sri Lankan arriving aboard a flight from Madras was detected smuggling in 2 and ½ kg of heroin to the country by the customs authority. The customs spokesman told LANKAPUVATH that the heroin was concealed in the false bottom of 24 aluminium tumblers. The detection was made by the assistant superintendent of customs, S.A. Senanayake, assisted by (M.S.A. Neethan). A total of 5.5 kg of heroin worth 2.5 million rupees has been detected at the Katunayake Airport during the past week.

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